Happy 1st Anniversary, I know, we're surprised too.

SR'MU

OVERLEED
GO! GO! Heaven!
T.R.A.P.
Dark Seed
W's
Mirai No Football
Ryuugi
HIGH SCHOOL
UNORDINARY LIFE
FC Barcelona
Monogatari
THE RED BICYCLE

Happy Birthday-

Happy birthday Doctor~
Yeah Dont do anything bad... I guess. Ha
-Kaya

Happy Birthday Dizzy~ Be sure to eat loads of sweet, come back to the channel, it bothers Saya :(I know. Its not mine you :D And translate manga for me! I'm lazy!
-Kayy

Happy Birthday. May cute Korean girls dance around your dreams.
-Binanana

Your name [illegible] always [illegible] Cha Cha Real [illegible] typical
-[illegible]

Happy birthday, Doc! Keep it suspicious!
-Yuuto

Happy birthday you. Enjoy [illegible] Enjoy eating and drinking! :)
-Ma

Oh, I know you're [illegible] and have some other [illegible] but we love you anyway. Have a great time, get drunk and be your lovely [illegible] personality.
-[illegible]

Dizzeybay, you're aged! Oh how you've aged, my little girl. May you have a great birthday, te amo! <3
-Ma

Doctor~

by Yamatoya Eco
Scanner
Starchywinky
Translator
Teishon
Editor
Starchywinky
Proofreader
Georgi
QC
Reyy
BROUGHT TO YOU BY

You seem to enjoy what we release here at SR°MU.
Would you like to help us release more of your favorite manga?
GLARE
Apply! We need Japanese Translators! Editors! Quality Checkers! And all sorts of people to help us out!
How you say?
Sure ...
But ... how?

2

Scomics

T·R·A·P·

2

大和屋エコ

小学館
SSC 2675

9784091226754

ISBN978-4-09-122675-4

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雑誌 45036-75　　小学館

T·R·A·P·

トラップ

ECO YAMATOYA PRESENTS

大和屋エコ

記憶をなくした少年、天草海音

知らなかった親友の素顔

不穏な動きを見せる大人達

謎の外国人少女

潮騒から聞こえる声

そして始まる、国立の予選

ミステリアスサッカー物語

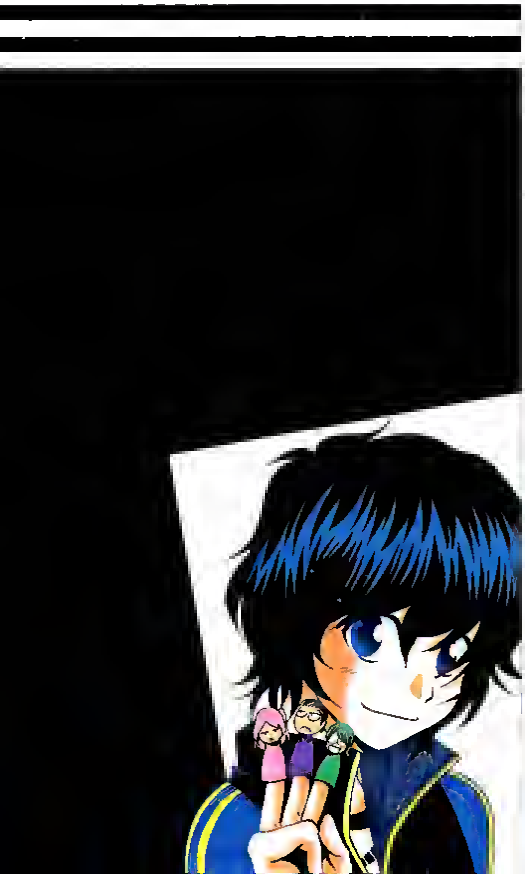
謎はさらに深化する——

Scomics

大和屋エコ

ECO YAMATOYA

なんとか第二巻に
こぎつけました。
物語のキーマン、
真崎が登場します。
みなさんには、
全てを分かりあえる
親友はいるでしょうか？



COVER ILLUSTRATION／大和屋エコ
BOOK & COVER DESIGN　安斎 秀+ベイブリッジ スタジオ

2

SS comics

T·R·A·P·

トラップ

T·R·A·P·

ECO YAMATOYA PRESENTS

大和屋エコ

SS comics

T·R·A·P· 2

大和屋エコ

小学館

GO DO IT, KOUSUKE-KUN!

それいけ！コースケくん

I'll go put on my costume, too!
Let's go give the senpai a scare!
Man, he's really slow.
Dawn's gonna break before he gets done.
Hey, sup, Amakusa! Have a seat!
You going to eat Koji's special pumpkin soup?

SS comics

T.R.A.P.

トラップ

2

大和屋エコ

ECO YAMATOYA PRESENTS

CHARACTER INTRODUCTION

前田進之丞
(2年・GK)
双子の妹・椿と音楽ユニットとして活動しながらゴールマウスを守る。

竹本孝介
(2年・FW)
純粋に国立を目指す、熱血サッカー少年。

五十嵐朗
(2年・MF・キャプテン)
かつてのエース・真崎の兄を受け入れられずにいたが、今は新チームのキャプテンとしてチームを引っ張る。

天草海音
(1年・FW)
誘波学院に転入してきた不思議な少年。驚異的なサッカースキルを持っているが、記憶がない。

天草詩音

誘波学院の教師。海音の遠縁にあたり、預かっているらしいが…？

和田

誘波学院サッカー部顧問 何かの意図があり、海音に近付いているようだが…

真崎英臣

誘波学院のかつてのエース。圧倒的なスキルを持っていたが、事故により死去。

前田 椿
(2年・マネージャー)

マネージャーのかたわら、兄・進之丞とともに音楽活動。常にヘッドホンをしている。

STORY

CONTENTS

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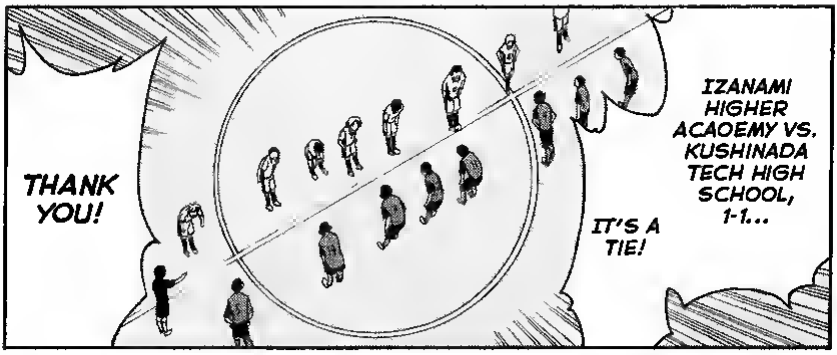
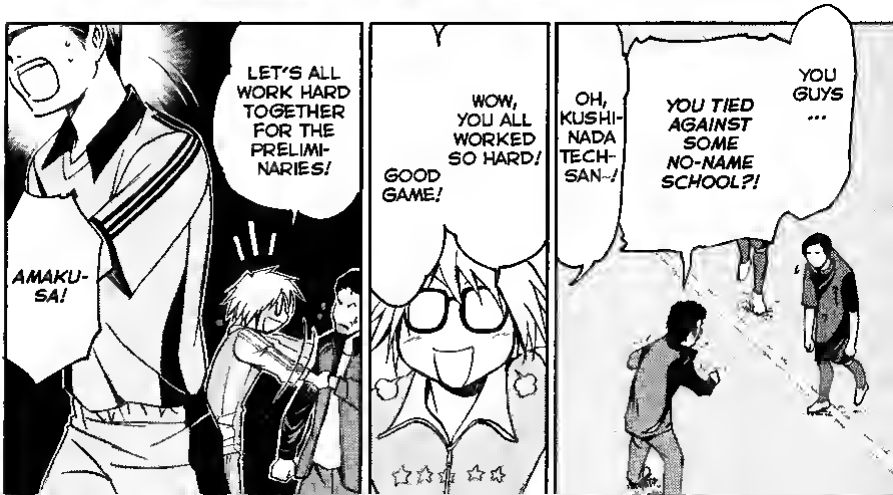
Chapter 9: What Lies Behind


IZANAMI HIGHER ACAOEMY VS. KUSHINADA TECH HIGH SCHOOL, 1-1...
IT'S A TIE!
THANK YOU!

ALL RIGHT, YEAH!
IF THIS IS OUR COME-BACK GAME, THEN IT WASN'T HALF-BAD!
NO JOKE!

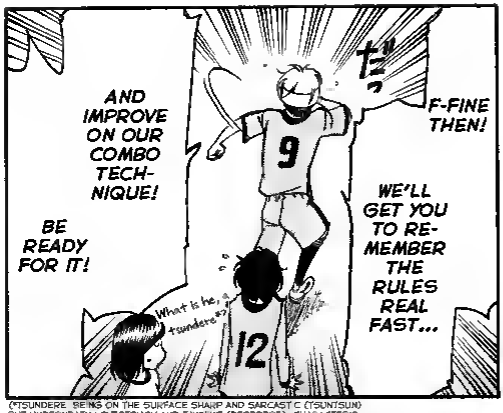
WHOA, THEY TIED!
ISN'T KUSHINADA TECH SUP-POSED TO BE REALLY STRONG OR SOME-THING?!
MAYBE I SHOULD JOIN THE SOCCER CLUB...


YOU GUYS ...
YOU TIED AGAINST SOME NO-NAME SCHOOL?!
OH, KUSHI-NADA TECH-SAN-!
WOW, YOU ALL WORKED SO HARD!
GOOD GAME!
LET'S ALL WORK HARD TOGETHER FOR THE PRELIMI-NARIES!
AMAKU-SA!

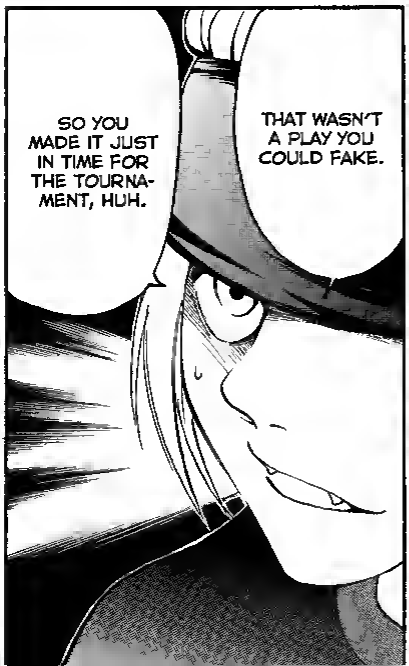
I'M SORRY ...
FOR WHAT I SAID!
12
YES!

YOU WERE THE ONE WHO WAS THE MOST BOTHERED BY EVERYTHING.
I'LL MAKE SURE THAT YOU KNOW ALL THE RULES FROM NOW ON,
AND WORK WITH YOU DURING PRACTICE!

SO, ONCE MORE IF WE COULD ...
TAKEMOTO KUN.
I WANT,
TO GO TO NATIONALS WITH EVERYONE.
PLEASE CONTINUE TO WATCH OVER ME!



("TSUNDERE" BEING ON THE SURFACE SHARP AND SARCASTIC (TSUNTSUN) BUT UNDERNEATH LOVESTRUCK AND FAWNING (DEREDERE) CHARACTERISTIC OF A GAP BETWEEN ACTED OUT ACTIONS AND FEELINGS IN MIND)



DOESN'T SEEM LIKE THEY WERE KIDDING ABOUT MASAKI'S RE-INCARNATION, EITHER...
!
NAH... THEY'RE NOT REALLY THAT ALIKE, YOU KNOW?
NOT TODAY, ANYWAY...
OH YEAH?
I WASN'T REALLY TALKING ABOUT THEIR PLAYING STYLE, THOUGH.
IT'S THAT KIND OF SIXTH SENSE THEY HAVE WHEN THEY AREN'T LOOKING BACK.
REMINDED ME OF MASAKI AND SENT CHILLS DOWN MY SPINE.
12
WELL, I GUESS IT WAS LIKE THAT...
...WHEN MASAKI AND I DID A COMBO TOGETHER AND SCORED...
OH OOPS, ABOUT TIME TO SPLIT.
7

WELL, IT'S NOT LIKE IT WAS BAD OR ANY-THING...
...FOR HIM TO HAVE JUST FOLLOWED MASAKI TO THIS PLACE...
YOU GUYS WERE WASTING AWAY YOUR HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER DAYS.
BUT, THERE'S NO SAYING YOU GUYS DIDN'T MAKE A SLOW START!
A REGULAR AT NATION-ALS, TEN-SHOUJI IS IN THE SAME BLOCK AS YOU GUYS.
DO YOUR BEST TO SURVIVE AGAINST THEM LIKE YOU DID WITH US!
KASUKA!
YEAH, CO-MING.
SEE YOU GUYS.
HE TALKS AS FAST AS EVER.
.....

MASAKI ...
BUT STILL, I DID A TON OF COMBOS WITH HIM AT PRACTICE.
AND EVEN WHEN I RECEIVED PASSES THAT FELT THE SAME AS AMAKUSA'S DID.
I JUST THOUGHT MASAKI HAD HAD A REALLY GOOD SIXTH SENSE ABOUT IT ALL...

WHOA,
LOOK AT WHAT'S ALREADY GOING ON BECAUSE OF AMA-KUSA.

EH,
WHAAAT?!
YOU'D LIKE TO JOIN THE CLUB?!
REALLY ?!

IS ALL THIS...
...A COINCIDENCE?

YES, MA'AM.
THAT THING ABOUT AMAKUSA BEING A FIRST YEAR AND USED AS A REGULAR...
MEANS WE'LL HIT THE BENCH JUST LIKE THAT, RIGHT?
AHH...
SO, THAT'S WHAT THEY'RE HERE FOR...
WELL, WITH ENOUGH PEOPLE, WE CAN SPLIT THE TEAM UP FOR THE SCRIM-MAGE, I GUESS.
ALL RIGHT THEN, WRITE DOWN YOUR CLASSES AND NAMES HERE!
WAKANA, HERE! YOU MAKE THE ROSTER!
EHH...I HAVE TO DO IT?
YOU'RE A MAN-AGER NOW, AREN'T YOU?!
TSUBAKI, COME WITH ME FOR A SEC!
!?

MISATO-SENPAI!!
HEY. BEEN A WHILE, KUROSAWA.
YOU TOO, TSUBAKI-CHAN.
ARE YOU GUYS STILL MANAGERS FOR THE CLUB?
YOU ALL SAW THE GAME WE JUST PLAYED, RIGHT?
SENPAI...

SENPAI ...
COULD ALL OF YOU PLEASE COME BACK TO THE TEAM?!
WELL,
WE HAD SOME TIME TO KILL.
GOOD FOR YOU GUYS. LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE GOT SOMEONE USEFUL ON THE TEAM NOW.
WE BARELY HAVE ENOUGH PEOPLE TO PLAY ...
AND THEY REALLY DON'T HAVE ENOUGH EXPERI-ENCE.
YOU'LL STILL MAKE IT TO THE FINAL CHAMPIONSHIP MATCHES!
I WAS JOKING !
I'VE GOT TO GET TO CRAM SCHOOL...
IF ALL OF YOU COME BACK...
NO NEED FOR THEM TO COME BACK.
WH- WHAT... HARUKA!
YOU'LL BE INVITED TO TSUBAKI'S LAST LIVE PERFORMANCE FOR THE SUMMER, ALONG-SIDE A SWIMSUIT PHOTO SESSION!
OH MAN... THAT'S...
Sounds tempting

チース
SUP, IGARASHI.
SO YOU'RE THE CAPTAIN NOW, HUH?
STAY OUT OF THIS, IGARASHI-KUN!
WHAT'S MOST IMPORTANT RIGHT NOW IS GETTING MORE MEMBERS!
YEAH, AND WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN AFTER YOU BRING BACK THE GUYS WHO RAN OFF?
IT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE THE WAY YOU ARE THAT OUR NUMBERS FELL SO LOW!
HE DOESN'T KNOW A SINGLE THING, DOES HE?
HEY, DON'T START.
ハ!

IGA-RASHI...
WHAT ARE YOU TALK-ING ABOUT, KAJI-SAN?
HUH?!
WHAT EXACTLY DO YOU EVEN KNOW ABOUT MASAKI?
JUST HOW WELL DID YOU REALLY UNDER-STAND HIM?

THAT'S ENOUGH, YOU IDIOTS!
YOU START TROUBLE AGAIN, AND YOU'LL BE RIGHT BACK WHERE YOU STARTED!
AMA-KUSA-SEN-SEI...

YOU THIRD YEARS!
WHY NOT JOIN THE TEAM AGAIN?

HUH?!
WHETHER YOU TAKE SOME EN-TRANCE EXAMS, OR WHETHER YOU GET INTO UNI-VERSITY,
IT WON'T BE OFFICIALLY REPORTED THAT YOU KEPT UP WITH YOUR CLUB ACTIVITIES.
WELL, THAT'S TRUE, BUT...
.....

A-ARE YOU SERIOUS?!
WHA...?!
HMPH...
WELL, HE'S NOT AROUND ANYMORE, SO.
IF YOU NEED US, NO REASON NOT TO JOIN UP.
SEE YOU GUYS
WE'LL THINK ABOUT IT.
.....
IGARASHI!
WAIT A SEC, HEY!
THAT'S EXACTLY WHY.
YOU WERE SO AGAINST KAIN-KUN JOINING THE CLUB AND EVERYTHING...
BUT... WHY DID YOU HELP?
SHION-SENSEI, THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
UM...

DO ME A FAVOR AND MAKE SURE HE'S PUT ON THE RESERVES.
THE MORE PLAYERS THERE ARE, THE LESS GAMES KAIN WILL PLAY IN, RIGHT?
HUH?
TRUTH IS, KAIN'S GOT A WEAK BODY.
WELL, IT'S NOT LIKE IT'S IMPOSSIBLE...
EH, BUT THAT'S ...
I'M COUNTING ON YOU GUYS.
WELL, THERE'S YOUR ANSWER
I CAN'T LET SOMEONE I'M TAKING SPECIAL CARE OF MAX HIMSELF OUT.
WHAT ?!
IT'S WORRISOME.
.....
IS KAIN-KUN OKAY?!
WHAT SHOULD WE DO, TSUBAKI... ?!

SENSEI...
YOU KNOW ABOUT AMAKUSA'S PAST, RIGHT?

WHERE HAS THAT KID PLAYED SOCCER UP UNTIL NOW?
YOU KNOW, RIGHT ?
.....
YOU LITTLE PRICK, WHERE DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THAT...

WHERE AND HOW DID HE GROW UP,
AND WHAT KIND OF PLACE DID HE PLAY SOCCER IN?
HOW'D HE COME BY THAT KIND OF SKILL?
WOULD YOU MIND TELLING ME?
...WHY DO YOU WANT TO KNOW?
HU?
YOU NEVER LIKED HIM FROM THE START, RIGHT?

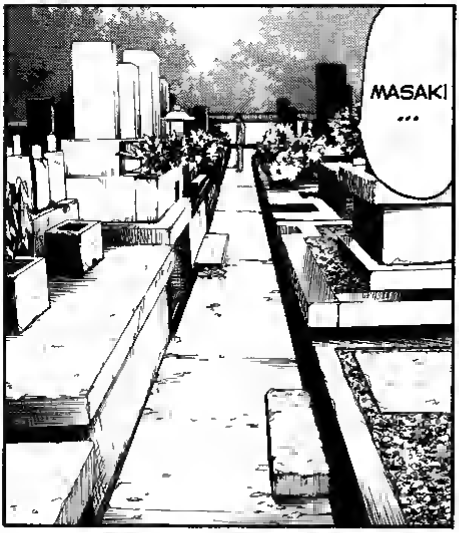
I DON'T FEEL OBLIGED TO ANSWER.
I DON'T KNOW A DAMN THING ABOUT EITHER ONE OF THEM!
AMAKUSA...
MASAKI...
ドルン
キュ
キュ
キュ

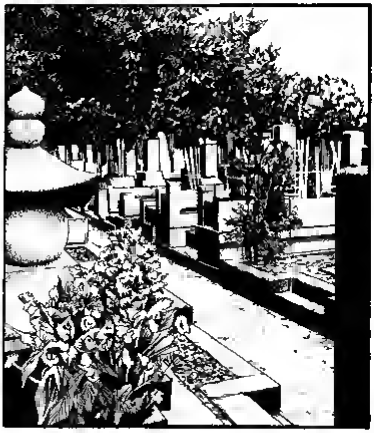
Chapter 10: Testimony

ガチャ
HEY AKIRA,
ABOUT THE SOCCER MAGAZINE YOU BOUGHT YESTERDAY...

HUH?
HEY MOM, WHERE'S AKIRA?
ヴィー
HE ALREADY LEFT, SAYING HE HAD CLUB PRACTICE.
YOU SERIOUS?
THIS EARLY ON A SUNDAY MORNING?

SO DID HE FINALLY GET OVER THAT?
ALL HE DID WAS SKIP PRACTICE WHEN MASAKI-SAN DIED.

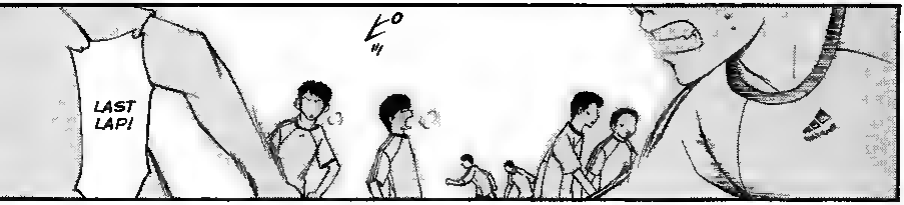

MASAKI ...

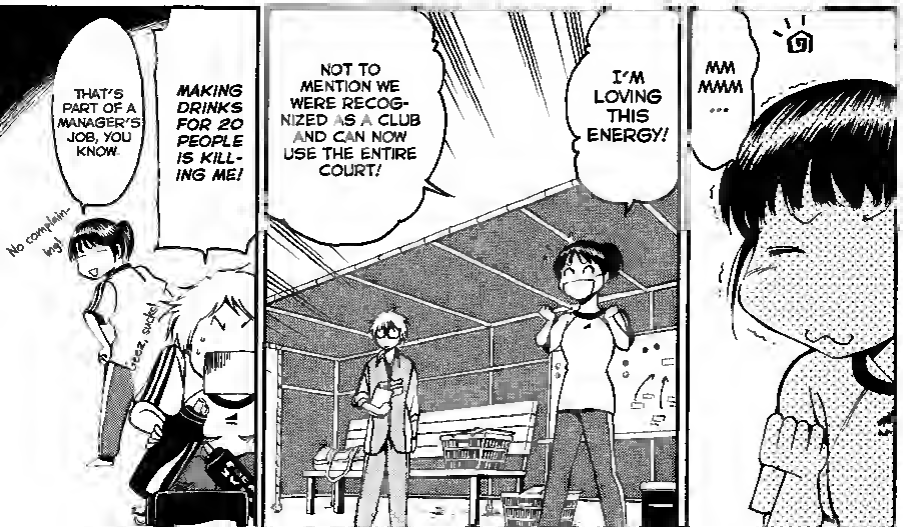


I...WAS SO HAPPY TO PLAY SOCCER WITH YOU AT SCHOOL,
SO I HADN'T REALLY THOUGHT ABOUT IT.

YOU WENT SO FAR AS TO TURN DOWN AN INVITE TO THE YOUTH LEAGUE...
ABOUT THE REASON YOU CAME TO OUR SCHOOL.
HOW ABOUT SOME COMBO PRACTICE WITH ME?
IGARASHI!
MASAKI... YOU'D PLANNED TO GO TO NATIONALS WITH US, RIGHT?
THAT'S WHAT YOU SAID, RIGHT?!
THE MASAKI RECOGNIZED ME FOR WHO I AM!
I WAS SO HAPPY...

EVERYONE ON OUR TEAM WILL DEFINITELY...
...ALL GO TO NATIONALS TOGETHER!


LAST LAP!

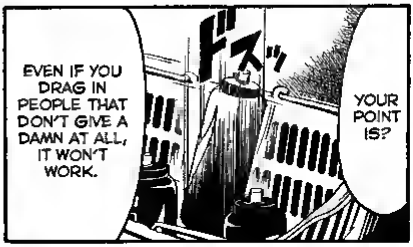

MM MMM...
I'M LOVING THIS ENERGY!
NOT TO MENTION WE WERE RECOGNIZED AS A CLUB AND CAN NOW USE THE ENTIRE COURT!
MAKING DRINKS FOR 20 PEOPLE IS KILLING ME!
THAT'S PART OF A MANAGER'S JOB, YOU KNOW
No complaining!
Geez, sucks!

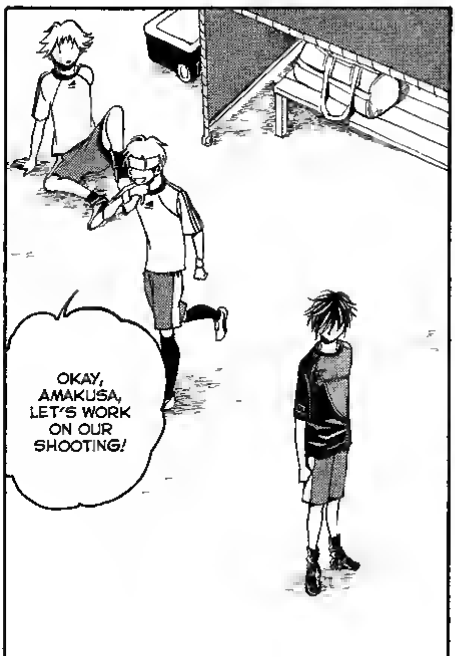
THERE ARE SO MANY PEOPLE ON THE FIELD THAT I GOT TIRED...
I'LL HELP YOU OUT!
U-UM...
THEN HOW ABOUT WE REST A BIT?
WADA-SENSEI, KAIN-KUN SAID HE WAS TIRED...
5 MIN BREAK!
NO, NO, I'M FINE, KAIN-KUN! GO PRACTICE!
I'LL MAKE YOU GUYS SOME REALLY TASTY DRINKS!
Tasty drink?
WITH ONLY THIS MUCH, WE CAN'T DO A TEAM SCRIMMAGE, BUT WE CAN WORK ON SOME STRATEGIES!
THERE ARE 3 SECOND-YEAR STUDENTS, AND 5 FIRST-YEARS...

I WAS HOPING 2 OR 3 THIRD-YEARS COULD WORK ON DEFENSIVE BLOCKING...
CAN'T DENY THAT WE'RE LACKING IN EXPERIENCE.
U-UM, HARUKA ...
WE REALLY DON'T HAVE THAT LUXURY RIGHT NOW.
THERE'S THAT, BUT...
AH, DON'T TAKE WHAT I SAID SO SERIOUSLY.
I was joking.
IF I DO THE LIVE CONCERT AT THE VERY LEAST...
ABOUT THE SWIMSUIT THING...
I-I'M WORRIED ABOUT WHAT YOU TOLD OUR SENPAI A LITTLE WHILE AGO...
...WHAT?

WITH THOSE THREE HERE, OUR DEFENSIVE BLOCK WILL BE PERFECT!
KAJI-SENPAI, MISATO-SENPAI, AND TSURU-SENPAI...
YOU KNOW, DON'T YOU?

IF THEY DIDN'T CARE, THEY WOULDN'T HAVE COME TO SEE THE MATCH!

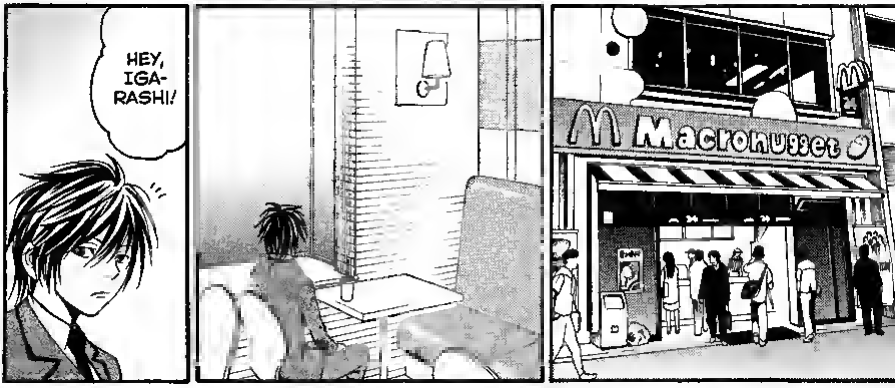

EVEN IF YOU DRAG IN PEOPLE THAT DON'T GIVE A DAMN AT ALL, IT WON'T WORK.
ドズッ
YOUR POINT IS?

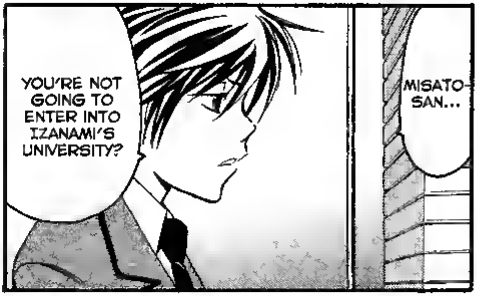

OKAY, AMAKUSA, LET'S WORK ON OUR SHOOTING!

THEN LET'S DO ALL WE CAN FOR THAT TO HAPPEN!
IGARASHI-KUN ...AREN'T YOU PLANNING TO CHASE AFTER MASAKI-KUN'S DREAM?!

HOLD ON YOU, IT'S STILL BREAK TIME!
BUT I'VE RESTED ENOUGH ALREADY!
SO YOU WANT ME TO GO CONVINCE THOSE GUYS TO COME BACK, RIGHT?
WELL, I'M NOT SAYING THAT...
THERE'S A CHANCE YOU MIGHT GET INTO A FIGHT AND ALL —
FINE, I'LL DO IT.
EH?!
I'VE GOT SOME-THING...
...I WANT TO ASK THEM, ANYWAY.

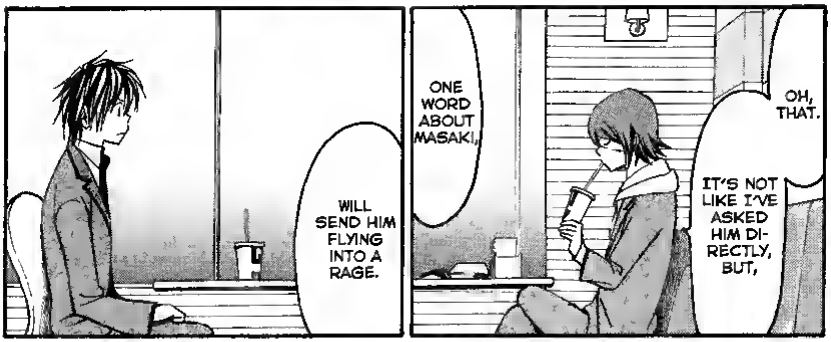
Q/C Gotta love them Macronuggets~ XD





THE WORLD'S SWARMING WITH GENIUSES EVERYWHERE.
あーむ
EVEN IF ORDINARY PEOPLE LIKE US TRY OUR HARDEST UNTIL THE END OF TIME, WE'LL NEVER BE AS GOOD AS THEM.
YOU KNOW, MASAKI, THAT KID, AND THE LIKE.
RIGHT?
...MASAKI AND AMAKUSA ARE EVERYDAY HIGH SCHOOL KIDS, TOO.
THEY'RE NO DIFFERENT FROM US IN ANY WAY.
YOU CAN'T REALLY SAY THAT, HAVING PLAYED WITH BOTH.
LOOKING FROM THE OUTSIDE IN, YOU KNOW THAT RIGHT?
THOSE GUYS ARE MONSTERS.
WHAT DID...
KAJI-SAN MEAN BY THAT?

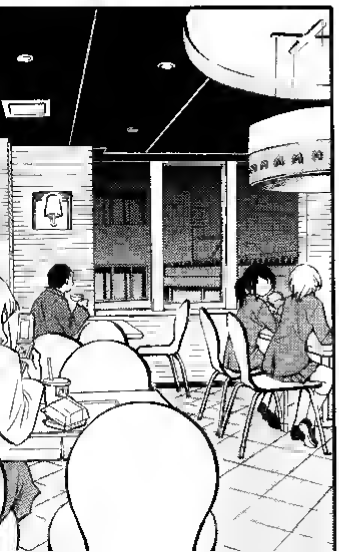
JUST HOW MUCH DID YOU REALLY UNDERSTAND HIM?
WHAT EXACTLY DO YOU EVEN KNOW ABOUT MASAKI?


WILL SEND HIM FLYING INTO A RAGE.
ONE WORD ABOUT MASAKI,
OH, THAT.
IT'S NOT LIKE I'VE ASKED HIM DIRECTLY, BUT,

YOU WISH, DUMBASS!
TAKEMOTO, IS IT SOME PERVERTED DVD?!
EVERYONE HELP CLEAN UP!
YES MA'AM...
LET'S END PRACTICE HERE, THEN!
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
THERE'S A SUPER AWESOME PLAY IN THERE SO MAKE SURE TO WATCH IT!
AMAKUSA, I'LL LET YOU BORROW THE CHAMPIONS LEAGUE (CL) DVD TO TAKE HOME.

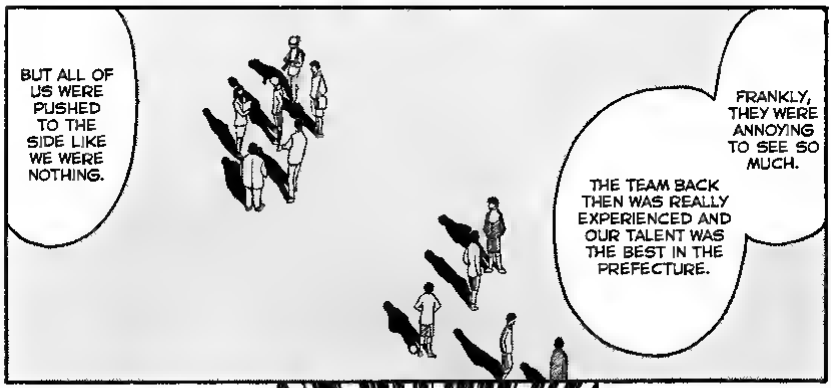
AH, IT'S AMAKUSA-SENSEI!
DID YOU COME TO WATCH?
DIDN'T I TELL YOU? KAIN'S HEALTH ISN'T THAT GOOD...
LET'S LEAVE THAT FOR SOME OTHER TIME!

!
WELL, THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN THE CLUB HAS GROWN A LOT, AND KAIN-KUN HAS A LOT ON HIS PLATE RIGHT NOW,



BUT I'VE TAKEN THAT UNDER CONSIDERATION, TOO,
SO DON'T WORRY A BIT ABOUT IT!

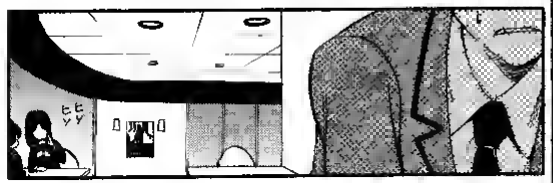
YOUTH LEAGUE SCOUTS WERE COMING ALL THE TIME TO RECRUIT MASAKI...
WHEN YOU GUYS JOINED THE CLUB,

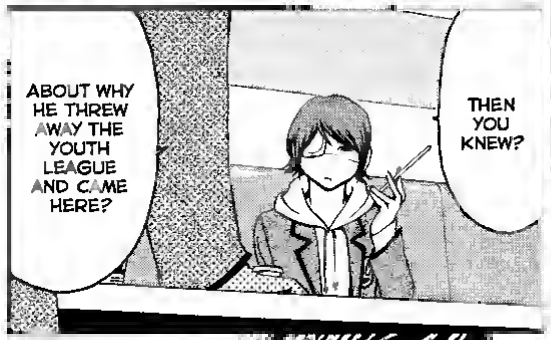

BUT ALL OF US WERE PUSHED TO THE SIDE LIKE WE WERE NOTHING.
FRANKLY, THEY WERE ANNOYING TO SEE SO MUCH.
THE TEAM BACK THEN WAS REALLY EXPERIENCED AND OUR TALENT WAS THE BEST IN THE PREFECTURE.

AND YOU KNOW WHAT THAT GUY MASAKI SAID?
IF YOU'RE NOT GOING TO GIVE UP ON THE YOUTH LEAGUE, THEN HURRY UP AND GET THE HELL OUT OF HERE!
THEN, ONE DAY, IT SEEMS LIKE KAJI CONFRONTED MASAKI ABOUT IT...
KAJI, AND THIS GUY HE WAS ON GOOD TERMS WITH, AIZAWA, TOOK RESPONSIBILITY FOR MASAKI AND THEIR POSITIONS...

IT ISN'T REALLY LIKE I WANT TO BE HERE.
BUT YOU GUYS WON'T BE ABLE TO TAKE AWAY MY POSITION IN A GAME, SO I DON'T HAVE ANY PROB-LEMS HERE.

YOU'RE LYING!
THERE'S ...NO WAY HE'D SAY SOME-THING LIKE THAT!



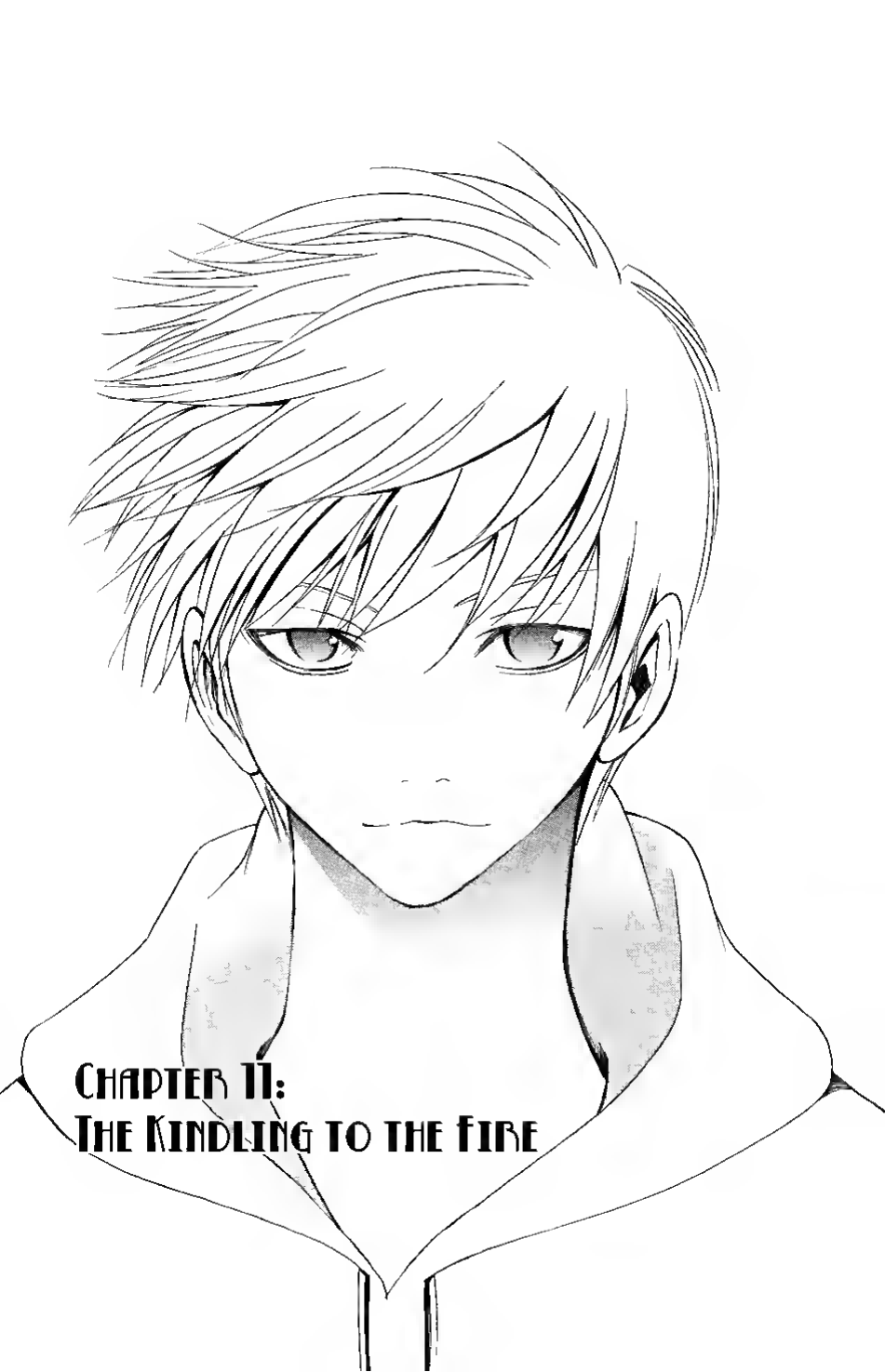

THEN YOU KNEW?
ABOUT WHY HE THREW AWAY THE YOUTH LEAGUE AND CAME HERE?

HA...
FOR HIM...

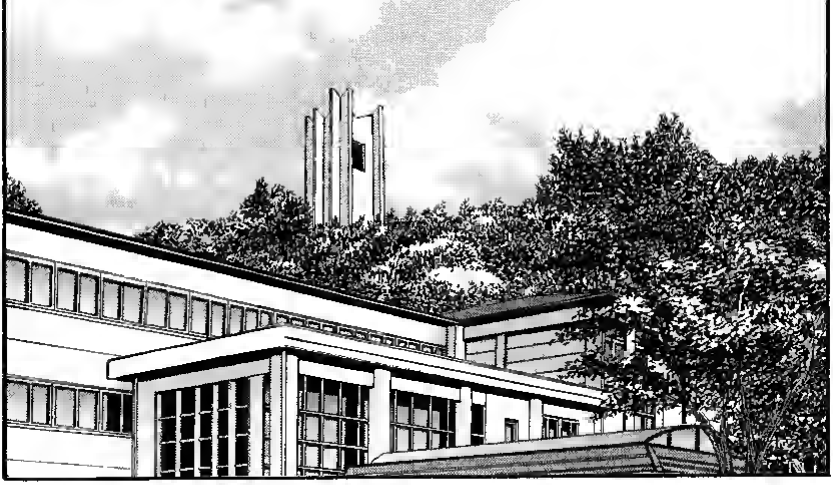
TH-...

FROM THE VERY BEGINNING, AS LONG AS HE GOT TO NATIONALS,
HOW HE DID IT DIDN'T MATTER.
HE ONLY CAME TO OUR SCHOOL AS A JOKE.
WE CAN'T GO BACK TO HOW WE USED TO BE.
BOTH PHYSICALLY,
AND MENTALLY.
...TO TAKE AWAY HIS POSITION.
WE DIDN'T HAVE THE MOTIVATION...
AND THEN, AFTER ALL THAT, HE UP AND DIED.

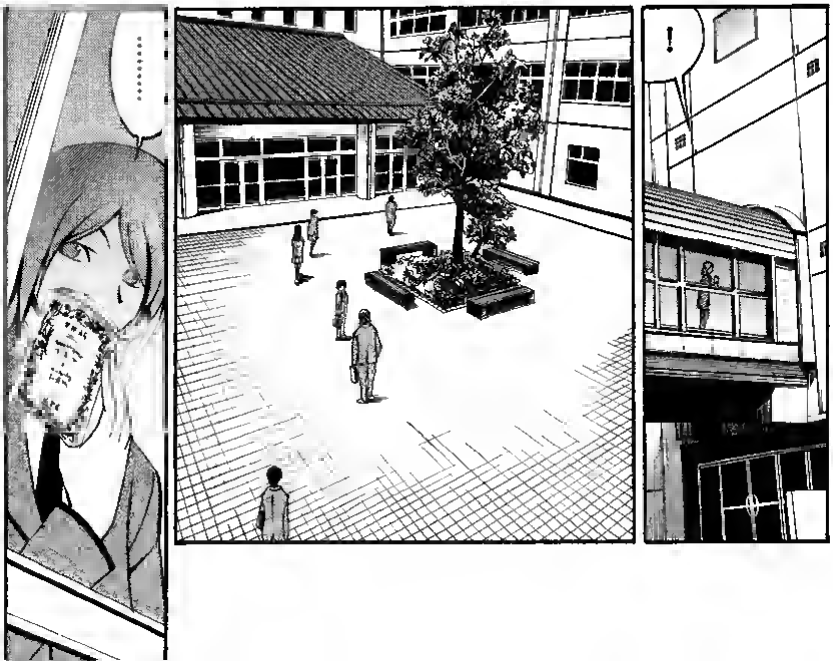
BUT... WHAT HE TOLD ME...
NO WAY...
MASAKI...
YOU WERE COMPLETELY SERIOUS, RIGHT?
EVERYONE ON OUR TEAM WILL DEFINITELY...
ALL GO TO NATIONALS TOGETHER!



Chapter 11:
The Kindling to the Fire



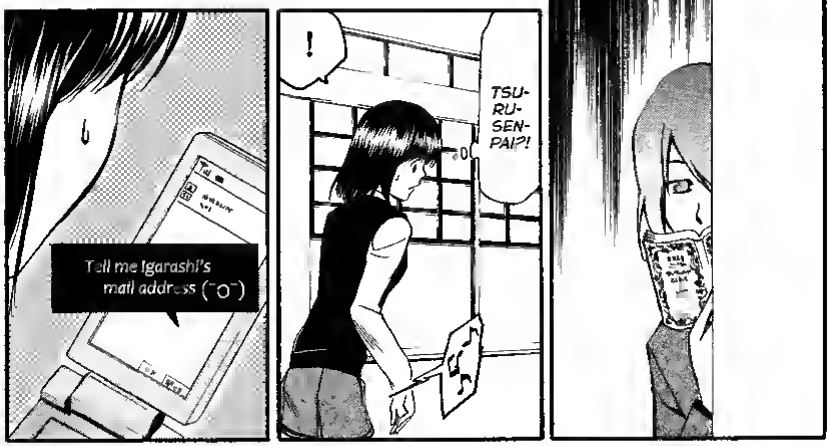
HE SAID YOU WON A PRIZE FOR YOUR ESSAY!
THE CLASSIC LIT TEACHER NOJIMA TRACKED ME DOWN!
Well done!
TSURU-KUUUN.
THUS SAID ZARATHUSTRA


.....
!

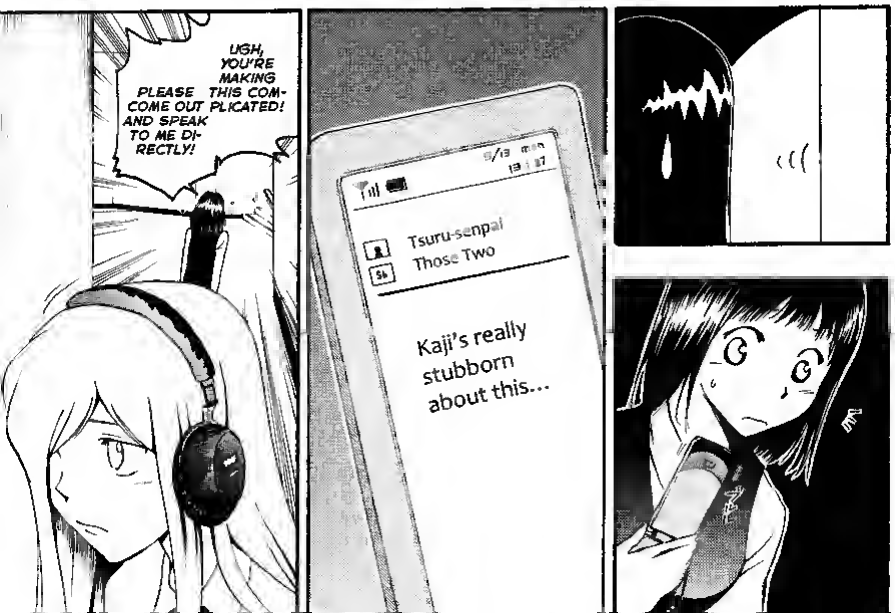
TCH!
MOR NING
HEY, ABOUT YES TER DAY
キーン
コーン
カーン
コーン

...ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED YESTERDAY WITH MISATO-SENPAI...
I'M KIND OF SCARED TO ASK...
I GUESS COUNTING ON IGARASHI TO CONVINCE THE THIRD YEARS TO COME BACK WAS A MISTAKE, HUH, MAEDA?
UUUGH...
JUST LOOK AT HIM, LOOKING ALL DE-PRESSED...
WE MAY HAVE TO GIVE UP ON THE SENIORS COMING BACK TO THE TEAM.
SO... NOW WHAT?
ばっ
HUH?!
WADA-SENSEI SAID HE'D GIVE US A HAND, TOO.
I'll help you guys out too!
WELL, IT'S TOO SOON TO SAY FOR SURE.

T.R.A.P. 2


Tell me Igarashi's mail address (¯O¯)
!
TSU-RU-SEN-PAI?!

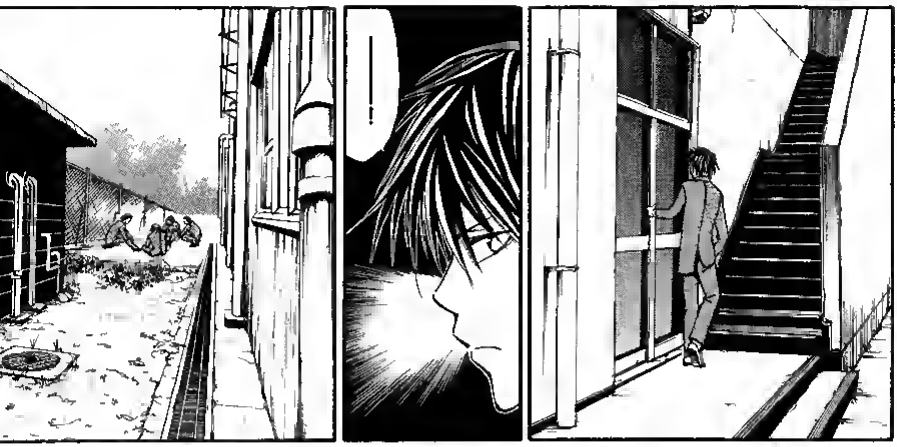
I'M SORRY, SENPAI, BUT I DON'T KNOW IT EITHER.
I THINK IT WOULD BE BETTER TO ASK HIM YOUR-...


UGH, YOU'RE MAKING THIS COM-PLICATED! PLEASE COME OUT AND SPEAK TO ME DI-RECTLY!
Tsuru-senpai
Those Two
Kaji's really stubborn about this...

U-UM, IGARASHI...
ABOUT WHAT HARUKA SAID TO THE SENIORS THE OTHER DAY...
?
WHAT'D SHE SAY AGAIN?
YOU'LL BE INVITED TO TSUBAKI'S LAST LIVE PERFORMANCE FOR THE SUMMER, ALONG WITH A SWIMSUIT PHOTO SESSION!

TH-THE SWIMSUIT PHOTO SHOOT WORRIES ME A BIT,
BUT IF THE SENIORS ARE COMING BACK, AND IF ONLY SWIMMING IN A POOL IS OKAY,
THEN SOMEHOW I'LL...!
ゴッ!!

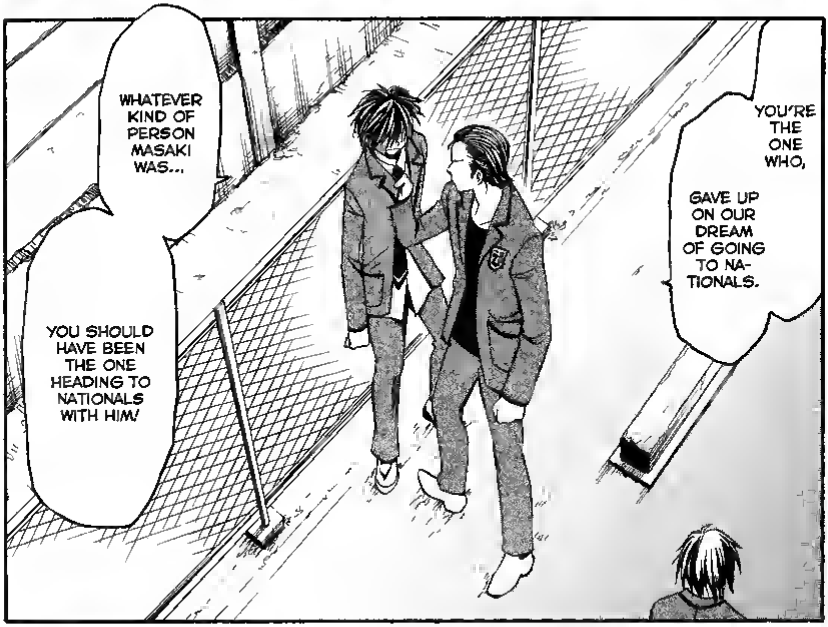
YOU KNOW ...
IF THAT'S THEIR REASON FOR COMING BACK, THEY WOULDN'T BE PLAYING SOCCER SERIOUSLY.
OH, UH ...
I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT ...
I TOLD YOU, THERE'S NO POINT IN HAVING THEM COME BACK.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT SO MUCH.



YO, IGARASHI.
?!
WHAT, YOU GONNA GO TATTLE ON ME TO THE TEACH?
!
SHUT UP.
ARE YOU IN A BAD MOOD OR SOMETHING, KAJI?
WHOA, SOOO SCARY!
Hahaha

I DON'T GIVE A DAMN ABOUT SOMEONE WHO ISN'T PART OF THE SOCCER CLUB.
NAH.
YOU LOOKIN' DOWN ON ME?!
THINGS WOULD LOOK PRETTY BAD FOR YOU, HUH?
BUT, SUPPOSE A FULL-TIME CLUB MEMBER LIKE YOU HAPPENED TO GET INTO A FIGHT BEFORE THE TOURNAMENT...
YEAH, SO I'M NOT PART OF THE CLUB ANYMORE.
YOU MIGHT EVEN GET DISQUALIFIED OR SOMETHING!

YOU'RE PATHETIC, KAJI-SAN.


WHATEVER KIND OF PERSON MASAKI WAS...
YOU SHOULD HAVE BEEN THE ONE HEADING TO NATIONALS WITH HIM!
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO, GAVE UP ON OUR DREAM OF GOING TO NATIONALS.

WITH ALL YOUR BUTTING IN! IT'S ALL ANCIENT HISTORY NOW!

SO I'D LIKE YOU TO KNOCK IT OFF
BUT THE ONE WHO CHOSE NOT TO WAS YOU!

"IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE RETIREMENT OF THE THIRD-YEARS, A GAME BETWEEN BOTH HALVES OF THE TEAM WAS HELD."

"IT ALL STARTED LAST YEAR..."

HE'S TALKING ABOUT THAT SCRIMMAGE GAME...

"Was held"?

WHAT'S THAT? AN EMAIL FROM TSURU-SAN?

EVEN THOUGH HE'D WANTED TO BE IN THE SECOND STRING.

MASAKI HAD COME ABOARD AS A SECOND-YEAR KEY PLAYER FOR THE FIRST-STRING, TOO...

THAT GAME WE HAD WHERE THE MAIN PLAYERS FROM THE SECOND-STRING WON AGAINST THE HARD-CORE MASAKI-LIKE PLAYERS IN THE FIRST-STRING? ALL OF US IN SECOND-STRING WERE FIRST YEARS!

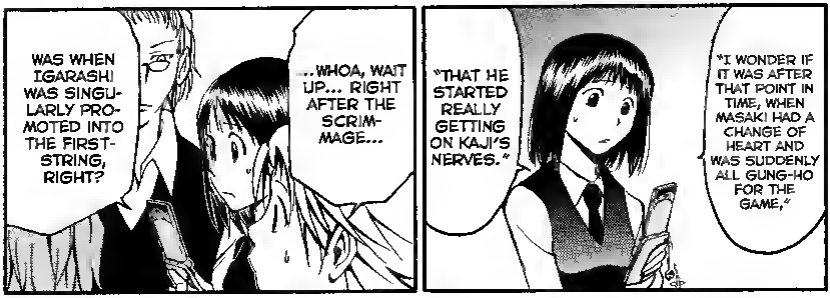
OH, YOU MEAN...

WE WERE A BRAND-NEW TEAM FIRST-STRING TEAM, AND HIS ATTITUDE REALLY GRATED ON OUR NERVES

FROM THE VERY BEGINNING, WHEN HE FIRST JOINED, MASAKI HAD NEVER WANTED TO DEAL WITH SOCCER SERIOUSLY

DO YOU...
...MIND IF I PLAY FOR THE SECOND-STRING?
THE PEOPLE PLAYING IN THE SCRIMMAGE WILL BE ...
AND THEN ONE DAY...
COACH.
BUT THE COACH DID RECOGNIZE MASAKI'S IMPULSIVENESS AND REWORKED THE FIRST-STRING MEMBER LIST.
3
OF COURSE, MASAKI WAS LINED UP IN THE FIRST-STRING LIST...
THE REST, AS THEY SAY, IS HISTORY.
6
THEN THE GAME BEGAN
AS FOR MASAKI'S POSITION – AN OLD FRIEND OF KAJI'S AIZAWA, TOOK UP THAT SPOT.
10

AND SHIFTED AIZAWA DOWN TO THE SECOND-STRING.
AFTER THE GAME, WITHDUT SAYING A WORD THE COACH MOVED MASAKI BACK UP TO THE FIRST-STRING
A BIT OF RESENTMENT BUILT UP FROM THAT, BUT—
"WITH MASAKI THERE, THE SECOND-STRING MADE A COME-BACK AGAINST THE FIRST-STRING."
THE COACH SAW EVERY-THING COMING


WAS WHEN IGARASHI WAS SINGU-LARLY PRO-MOTED INTO THE FIRST-STRING, RIGHT?
...WHOA, WAIT UP... RIGHT AFTER THE SCRIM-MAGE...
"THAT HE STARTED REALLY GETTING ON KAJI'S NERVES."
"I WONDER IF IT WAS AFTER THAT POINT IN TIME, WHEN MASAKI HAD A CHANGE OF HEART AND WAS SUDDENLY ALL GUNG-HO FOR THE GAME,"

BUT WITH IGARASHI,
I'LL AIM STRAIGHT FOR IT!
HEADING TO NATION-ALS WITH YOU SECOND-YEARS WOULDN'T AMOUNT TO MUCH,
SO IT ALL PLAYED OUT AS THE SENPAI THOUGHT IT WOULD...
I GUESS MASAKI RECOM-MENDED HIM TO THE COACH FOR THAT...
IN THAT COMEBACK, IGARASHI'S ASSIST FOR MASAKI'S SHOT WON THE GAME.

THERE S NO MORE NEED,
FOR YOU GUYS TO STICK AROUNO.

BUT TING IN...?

YOU'RE IN TROUBLE NOW, BRO...
OH MAN, HE REALLY HIT HIM.

WHY...
WHY YOU...
BOTH MASAKI ...AND THAT BRAT...
WHAT THE HELL...

ENOUGH WITH THE FALSE ACCUSA-TIONS, PLEASE.
WHA...?
DO THEY SEE IN YOU?!

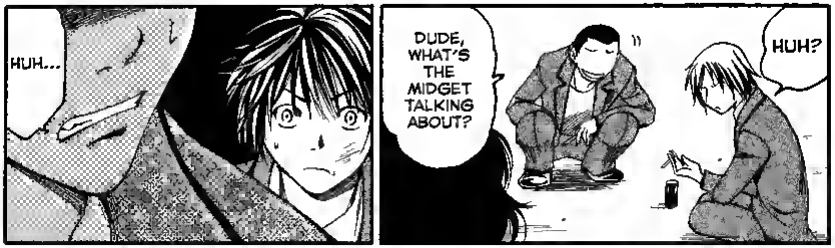
WHY DID MASAKI,
ONLY SEE YOU?!

I WON'T ACCEPT IT!
SO YOU'RE AMAKUSA, HUH.
WITH YOUR LACK OF SKILL WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING HERE?

BECAUSE I WANT TO GO TO NATIONALS...
WITH IGARASHI-KUN...

YOU IDIOT, GET OUT OF HERE!
AMA-KUSA?!
WHY?!
YOU, TOO...!
DON'T DO THIS!

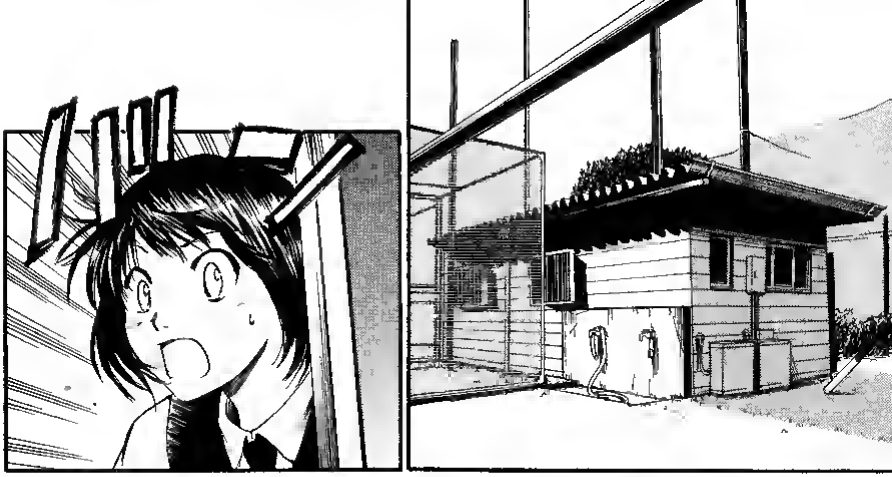
DIDN'T YOU SAY THIS MORNING THAT YOU WANTED TO GO TO NATIONALS, TOO?!
LET'S GO THERE TOGETHER!


HUH...
DUDE, WHAT'S THE MIDGET TALKING ABOUT?
HUH?

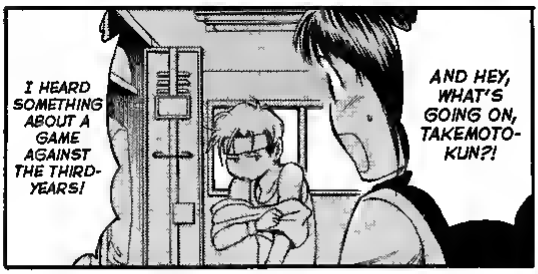
HUH, WHAT...?
THIS MORNING, YOU...
?
カチン
OKAY, BREAK IT UP EVERYONE!
WHEN THE HELL DID I SAY SOMETHING DUMB LIKE THAT?!
LIKE I'D SAY THAT!

KAJI-KUN, DON'T YOU THINK...
THE ONLY WAY TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTION IS WITH A GAME?
!!
W-WADA-SENSEI!
SMOKING, VIOLENCE, AND SO MUCH MORE...
IF YOU WANT TO KEEP THEM ALL A SECRET FROM THE SCHOOL...
I'm EVIL! - I want more!!
THEN HOW ABOUT COMING BACK TO THE FIELD, JUST ONCE?

Chapter 12:
After All is Said and Done



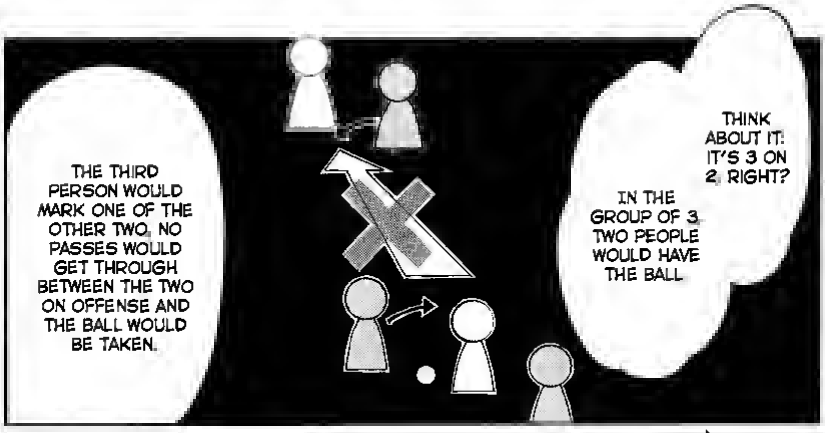
WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF DRESSING HERE!
きゃ〜あ

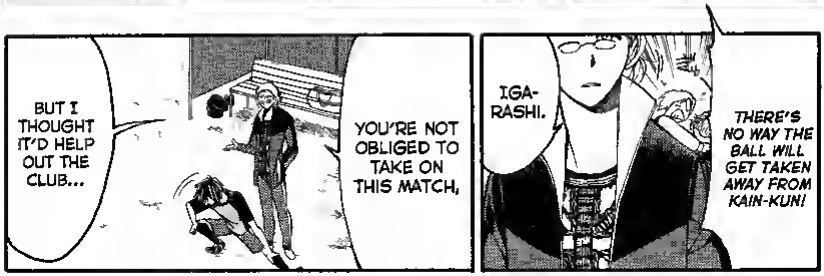

I HEARD SOMETHING ABOUT A GAME AGAINST THE THIRD-YEARS!
AND HEY, WHAT'S GOING ON, TAKEMOTO-KUN?!

YOU'RE A GUY! DON'T WHINE TO ME ABOUT STUPID THINGS LIKE THAT!

IT ALL SOUNDS LIKE SOMETHING WADA-SENSEI SET UP.
I'D LIKE TO KNOW WHAT'S UP, TOO.

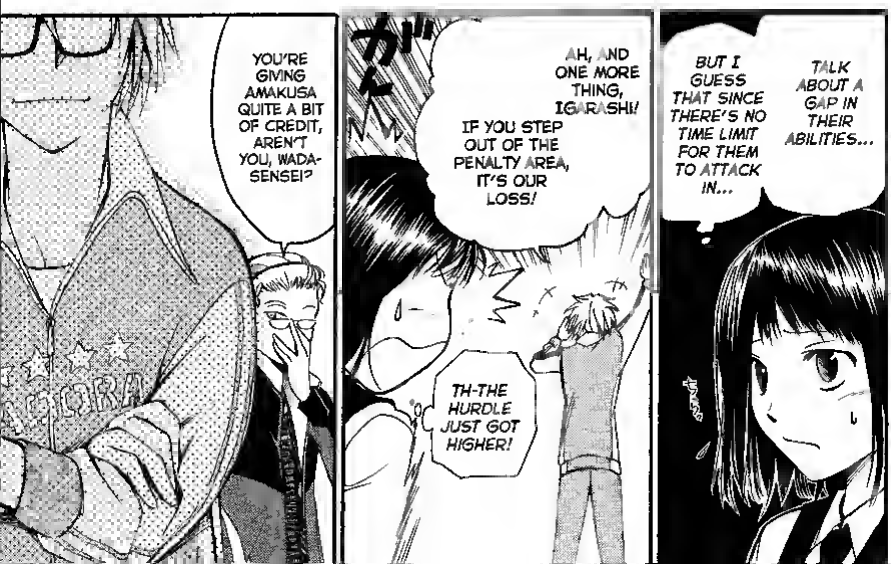
...OKAY? SO, THE RULES ARE AS I'VE JUST EXPLAINED:
IF YOU THIRD-YEARS CAN'T STEAL THE BALL AWAY FROM AMAKUSA-KUN AND IGARASHI-KUN, IT'S THEIR WIN.
IN THAT EVENT, YOU THREE WILL COME BACK TO THE CLUB.
WADA-SENSEI, ARE YOU LOOKING DOWN ON US?
I DON'T REALLY GET WHAT'S GOING ON,
BUT WE'LL BE ABLE TO SEE KAIN-KUN'S AWESOME MOVES AGAIN!
NAH, THAT'D NORMALLY BE IMPOSSIBLE.
WHY'S THAT?


THINK ABOUT IT: IT'S 3 ON 2, RIGHT?
IN THE GROUP OF 3, TWO PEOPLE WOULD HAVE THE BALL.
THE THIRD PERSON WOULD MARK ONE OF THE OTHER TWO. NO PASSES WOULD GET THROUGH BETWEEN THE TWO ON OFFENSE AND THE BALL WOULD BE TAKEN.


IGARASHI.
THERE'S NO WAY THE BALL WILL GET TAKEN AWAY FROM KAIN-KUN!
YOU'RE NOT OBLIGED TO TAKE ON THIS MATCH,
BUT I THOUGHT IT'D HELP OUT THE CLUB...

DOESN'T MATTER.
I PLAN TO PAY HIM BACK FOR THAT PUNCH HE GAVE ME IN FULL.
THAT'S ALL.
OH BOY...
...ALL RIGHT THEN.
HMM...
WE'RE AT A DISADVANTAGE IN THIS MATCH...

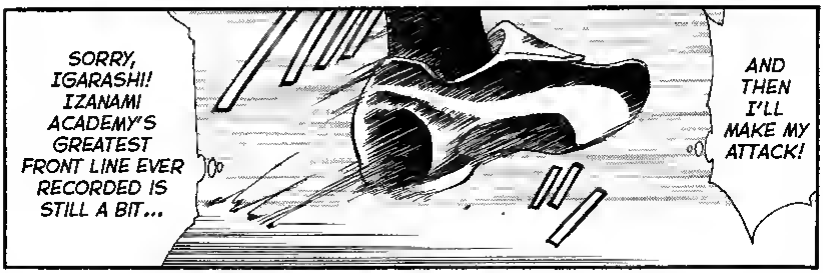
THOUGH SMALL IN STATURE, MISATO-SENPAI BOASTS OF A MASS OF MOVEMENTS AND POIGNANT INITIAL CHARGES,
AND IS A VOLANTE EXCELLENT ATMAN-TO-MAN MARKING.
KAJI-SENPAI IS STRONG BOTH MENTALLY AND PHYSICALLY, AND IS A POWERFUL CENTRE BACK.
WITH KEEN READINGS OF EACH MOVE, AND AN ABILITY TO SINGLE-HANDEDLY RUN UP AND DOWN THE LINES, TSURU- SENPAI IS APLAYER ADEPT AT COVERING


YOU'RE GIVING AMAKUSA QUITE A BIT OF CREDIT, AREN'T YOU, WADA-SENSEI?
AH, AND ONE MORE THING, IGARASHI! IF YOU STEP OUT OF THE PENALTY AREA, IT'S OUR LOSS!
TH-THE HURDLE JUST GOT HIGHER!
BUT I GUESS THAT SINCE THERE'S NO TIME LIMIT FOR THEM TO ATTACK IN...
TALK ABOUT A GAP IN THEIR ABILITIES...

I JUST WANT TO CHECK THIS AND THAT ABOUT HIM.
トーン
トーン
THIS AND THAT...
ピク
WELL THEN,
COME AT US ANYTIME, IGARASHI!
WE'RE COMING, THEN.

IT'S BEGUN!
DAMN IT... WHY ISN'T IT 3 ON 3?
...YOU WANTED TO PLAY, TOO?
I'm getting pumped up!
WELL, YEAH... THEIR OPPONENTS ARE THOSE THREE, AFTER ALL!
WHOA, SEE? MISATO-SENPAI WENT STRAIGHT FOR HIM!
HIS MAN-MARKING IS A DIFFICULT TECHNIQUE TO AVOID!

PUTTING PRESSURE ON THE SHORTY WILL LIMIT HIS PASSING OPTIONS...
AND TSURU WILL CUT OFF HIS PASS DIRECTLY.
LET'S HAVE A LOOK AT THAT SKILL OF YOURS.


SORRY, IGARASHI! IZANAMI ACADEMY'S GREATEST FRONT LINE EVER RECORDED IS STILL A BIT...
AND THEN I'LL MAKE MY ATTACK!

!?
RUSTY!

THE PASS...GOT THROUGH JUST LIKE THAT...
...HUH, WHAT?
TCH!
!!
HE'S THERE!

YOU!

WHAT'S UP WITH THIS?!
IT'S 3 ON 2, AND THEY STILL CAN'T GET THE BALL AT ALL?

W-WAIT A SEC...
IT'S BEEN GOING ON FOR A WHILE NOW.

IF IT GOES LIKE USUAL, I'LL GET CAUGHT BY THE TIMING OF HIS TRAPS,
I KNEW HE WASN'T JUST SOME NORMAL KID!
TH-
THIS BRAT ...
HAH
HAH
IT'S NOT JUST BECAUSE OF SOME SKILL GAP... THERE'S SOMETHING OFF ABOUT THIS GUY!
AND MISS IT BY .5 SECONDS, WITHOUT EXCEPTION!
AGAINST THOSE THREE?!
IS IT POSSIBLE FOR SUCH A THING TO HAPPEN
IT'S ALREADY BEEN 3 MINUTES!
T-TAKE-MOTO-KUN!

SMOKING'S TAKING ITS TOLL ON ME, TOO...
A GAP, HUH...
HEEH
PHEW
MY LEGS WON'T MOVE...
SHIT ...
HEE EH
HAAH
HEE EH

WHAT AM I STILL DOING ON THIS FIELD?
MAN, IT LOOKS SO BAD HAVING EVERYTHING END UP LIKE THIS...

YOU'VE JUST BEEN SCREWING AROUND WITH ME, HAVEN'T YOU?!
SHUT UP! ALL THIS TIME,
YOU SAID YOU WANTED TO GO TO NATIONALS, DIDN'T YOU?!
LET'S GO TOGETHER!

A SHOULDER CHARGE!
KAIN-KUN, WATCH OUT!

!
ALL RIGHT, FIIIINE.
WE THIRD-YEARS SURRENDER, WADA-SENSEI.
MISA-TO!
AS YOU COULD SEE, WE DIDN'T HAVE ANY GAPS OR ODDITIES,

BUT WE'RE ONLY DOING THIS BECAUSE OF HOW GOOD THE BRAT IS.
SO IF IT'S AS A SUBSTITUTE, WE'LL COME BACK TO THE TEAM.

THANKS.
SOUNDS GOOD.
HUH...

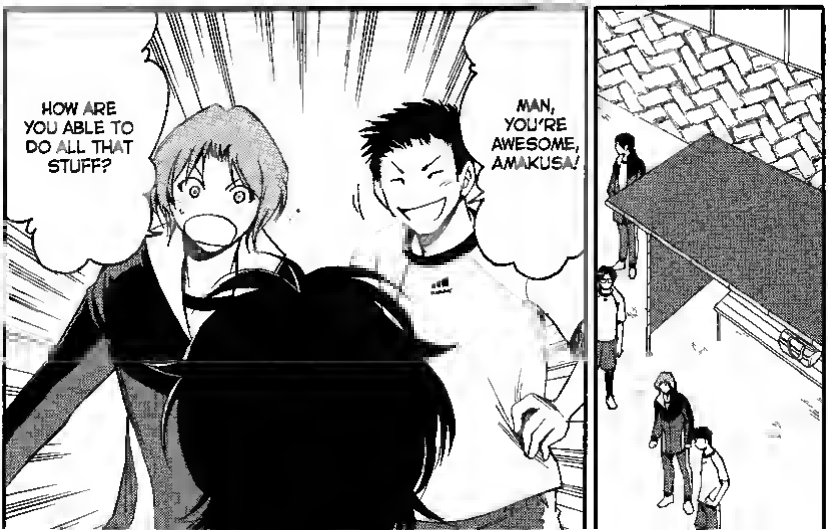
MISATO ...
YOU ASS... MAKING THAT DECISION WITHOUT EVEN ASKING US...

WHA-, SENPAI?!
YAAAY!
I DON'T SWING THAT WAY!
THE UPPER-CLASSMEN ARE COMING BACK TO THE TEAM!
A-ALL RIGHT!

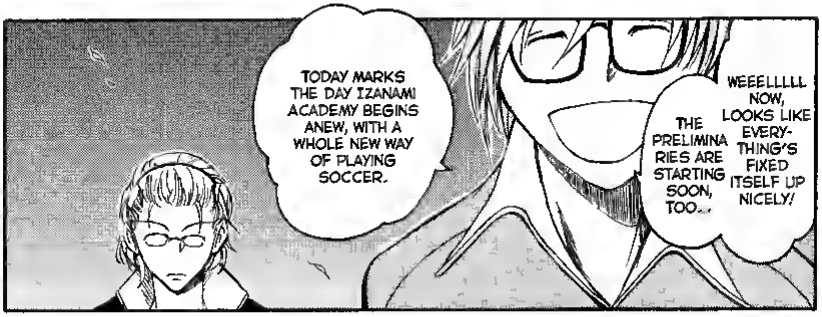
YOU KNOW YOU FEEL A LINGERING ATTACHMENT FOR SOCCER BUILDING UP LITTLE BY LITTLE.
GET OVER IT, KAJI.

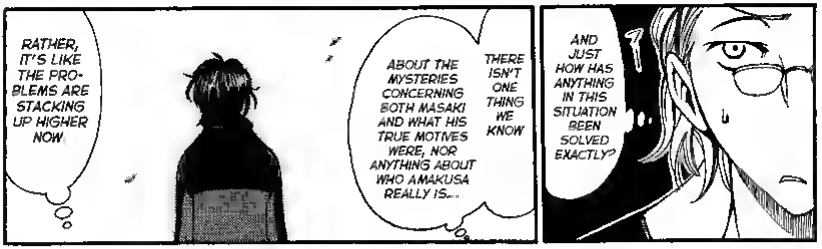
I'VE GOT A FEELING ...
THAT BRAT IS BETTER THAN MASAKI WAS.
!
BESIDES, MASAKI'S NOT AROUND ANYMORE,
AND IF THIS TEAM PUTS OUT BETTER RESULTS THAN WHEN MASAKI WAS WITH THEM,
THAT IN AND OF ITSELF WOULD MAKE THINGS WAY MORE INTERES-TING.

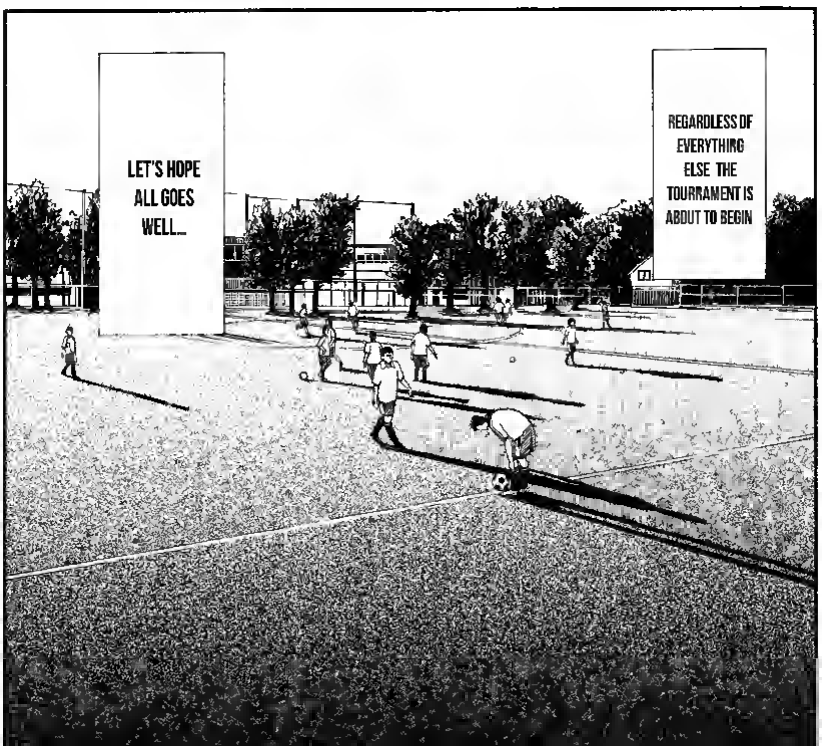
AND IT'S NOT LIKE YOU'RE STUDYING FOR ANY TESTS OR ANYTHING,
SO LET'S JUST PLAY WITH THEM FOR A WHILE.
HOW 'BOUT IT, TSURU?
PAT
TCH...


MAN, YOU'RE AWESOME, AMAKUSA!
HOW ARE YOU ABLE TO DO ALL THAT STUFF?

HOW'D YOU GET THEM TO COME BACK TO THE TEAM?!
YOU KNOW HOW AWE-SOME THOSE THREE ARE RIGHT?!
IGARASHI DIDN'T EVEN LOOK BACK WHEN HE PASSED, AND THE BALL WENT THROUGH JUST FINE...
WHOA, AMAKUSA, YOU'RE JUST...
TOTALLY OUT OF THIS WORLD!


TODAY MARKS THE DAY IZANAMI ACADEMY BEGINS ANEW, WITH A WHOLE NEW WAY OF PLAYING SOCCER.
WEEELLLLL NOW, LOOKS LIKE EVERY-THING'S FIXED ITSELF UP NICELY!
THE PRELIMINARIES ARE STARTING SOON, TOO...


RATHER, IT'S LIKE THE PROBLEMS ARE STACKING UP HIGHER NOW.
ABOUT THE MYSTERIES CONCERNING BOTH MASAKI AND WHAT HIS TRUE MOTIVES WERE, NOR ANYTHING ABOUT WHO AMAKUSA REALLY IS...
THERE ISN'T ONE THING WE KNOW
AND JUST HOW HAS ANYTHING IN THIS SITUATION BEEN SOLVED EXACTLY?


LET'S HOPE ALL GOES WELL...
REGARDLESS OF EVERYTHING ELSE THE TOURRAMENT IS ABOUT TO BEGIN

Chapter 13: Expectations

I TOLD YOU NOT TO TAKE THE STORE'S GOODS, DIDN'T I?!
NOW, JUST HOLD ON A SECOND, KOUSUKE!
竹本酒店

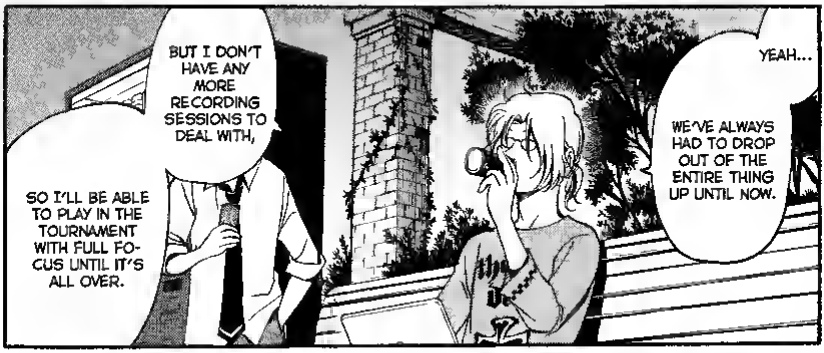
I'M GOING RUNNING FOR A BIT,
AND TAKING A BOTTLE OF POCARI WITH ME, THANKS!
有
IRIN

(有)竹本酒店

I CAN'T WORRY ABOUT ANYTHING BUT THAT RIGHT NOW!
WELL MAYBE, BUT THE TOURNAMENT STARTS THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW!

YOU HAVE TO PAY TO DRINK IT, YOU BRAT!
WHATEVER, JUST TAKING ONE WON'T HURT ANYONE.
AND ON THAT NOTE, DON'T YOU THINK YOU'VE HAD ENOUGH SOCCER PRACTICE BY NOW?!

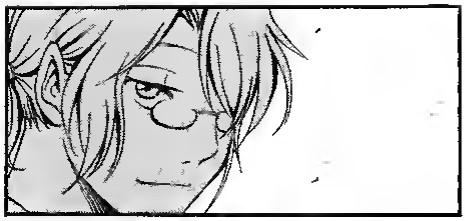
...SO YEAH,
THAT'S THE KIND OF FEELING I GET FROM THE STARTING LINEUP.
Thanks
WE WOULDN'T BE ALLOWED FULL PARTICIPATION IN THE TOURNAMENT WITH ALL THE UPPERCLASSMEN GONE...
YEAH, I HEAR YOU.
YEAH, I KNOW.
I KNOW BEING CAPTAIN'S GONNA BE TOUGH WITH THE THIRD YEARS THERE,
BUT DON'T LET IT GET TO YOU, IGARASHI.
SORRY ABOUT THIS, MAEDA,
CALLING YOU OUT HERE AFTER YOU JUST GOT OFF WORK...

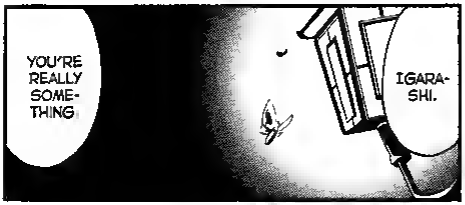

BUT I DON'T HAVE ANY MORE RECORDING SESSIONS TO DEAL WITH,
SO I'LL BE ABLE TO PLAY IN THE TOURNAMENT WITH FULL FOCUS UNTIL IT'S ALL OVER.
YEAH...
WE'VE ALWAYS HAD TO DROP OUT OF THE ENTIRE THING UP UNTIL NOW.

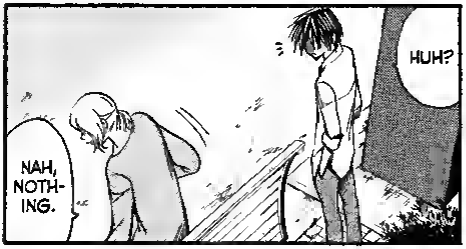
DON'T STRESS ON IT, OKAY?
THAT THING THE THIRD YEARS SAID ABOUT MASAKI...
BUT HEY, IGARASHI,
YOU'RE A LIFESAVER.

THERE'S NOT REALLY MUCH YOU CAN DO ABOUT IT AT THIS POINT.
I'M SURE A PLAYER LIKE MASAKI HAD HIS REASONS FOR COMING TO OUR SCHOOL, AND EVEN IF YOU HAVE THE SAME THOUGHT PROCESSES THE OTHERS DO,
HE ONLY CAME TO OUR SCHOOL AS A JOKE.
WHAT DO YOU EVEN KNOW ABOUT MASAKI?
FROM THE VERY BEGINNING, AS LONG AS HE GOT TO NATIONALS, HOW HE DID IT DIDN'T MATTER.

YOU KNOW,
IF I DIDN'T WANT TO BE HERE, I WOULDN'T BE.
I...
HAVE FAITH IN HIM.
EVEN WITH THAT, I REALLY BELIEVE.
BELIEVED WHAT THEY SAID AT THE VERY BEGINNING...
THAT WHAT MASAKI SAID
FROM HIS HEART.




YOU'RE REALLY SOME-THING.
IGARA-SHI.

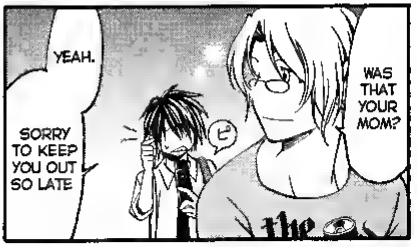

NAH, NOTH-ING.
HUH?

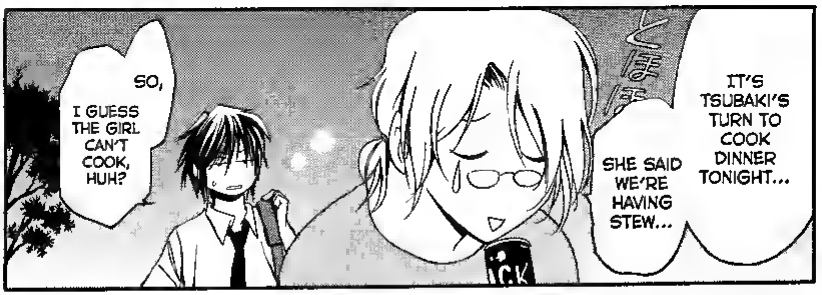
I BET MASAKI PROBABLY DID...
JUST BECAUSE OF WHO YOU ARE,
ザザザ

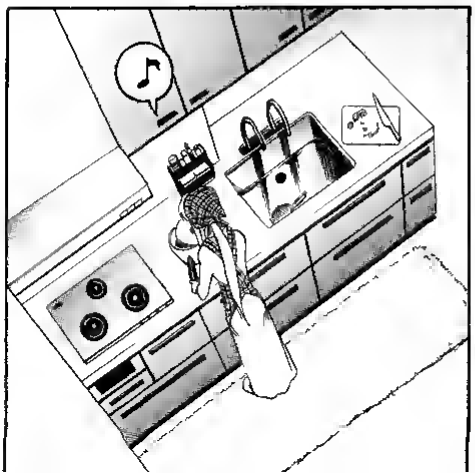
WE'RE DEFINITELY GOING TO NATIONALS!
WE AND EVERYONE ELSE ON THIS TEAM!

CLUB PRACTICE ENDED A LONG TIME AGO. DIDN'T IT?!
AKIRA!
WHERE IN THE WORLD HAVE YOU BEEN?!

NAH,
CAN'T REALLY SAY I'M ALL THAT UPSET ABOUT IT...


YEAH.
SORRY TO KEEP YOU OUT SO LATE
WAS THAT YOUR MOM?

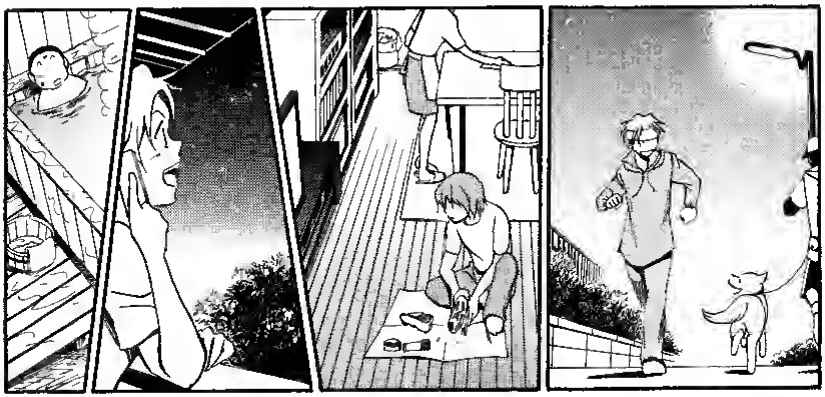

SO, I GUESS THE GIRL CAN'T COOK, HUH?
SHE SAID WE'RE HAVING STEW...
IT'S TSUBAKI'S TURN TO COOK DINNER TONIGHT...



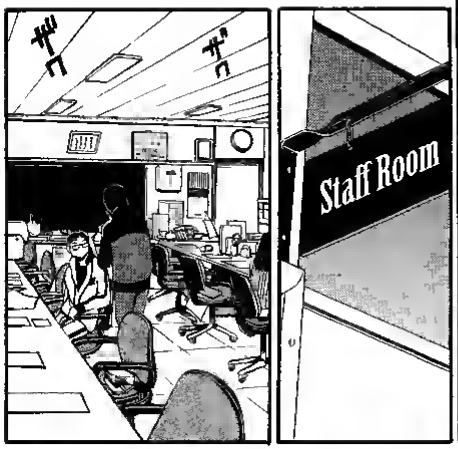
WELL,
YOU'LL JUST HAVE TO EAT IT ONCE TO REALLY GET WHAT I MEAN.

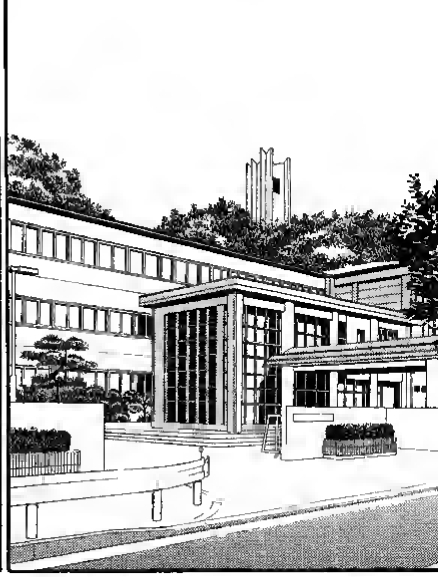
I'M HOME...
?
?
?
WELCOME BACK, SHIN-CHAN.
WHAT DID IGARASHI HAVE TO SAY?
WE'VE GOT SO MANY MEMBERS THIS TIME THAT SOME WILL BE ON THE BENCH.
NOT MUCH,
JUST WANTED TO CHECK UP ON THE STARTING LINEUP.

BOIL IT FOR ABOUT TEN MORE MINUTES.
I'M OFF FOR MY SHOWER.
Ugh how can he know when it's needs so easily
.....



THE FIRST THEY'VE HAD IN A LONG...LONG WHILE.
ONLY 2 MORE DAYS.
UNTIL IZANAMI ACADEMY HAS THEIR GAME.


Staff Room

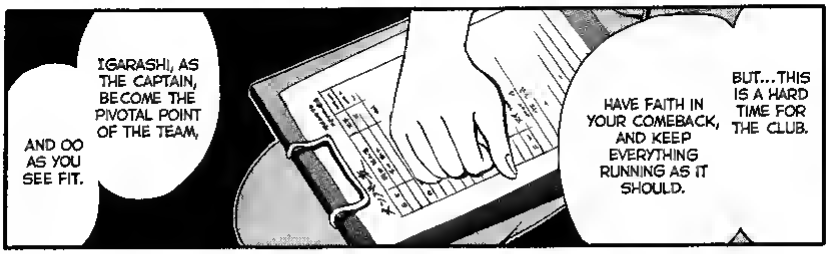


I'M COUNTING ON YOU GUYS TO DEAL WITH THIS.
I CAN TAKE CARE OF THE TECHNICAL STUFF, BUT I DON'T KNOW THE MEMBERS OF THE TEAM WELL ENOUGH TO DO THIS PART...

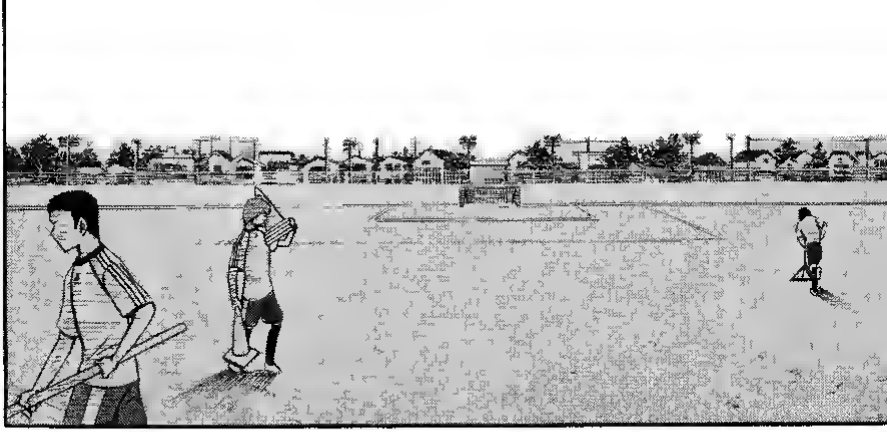
I'M A NEWBIE WITH THIS STUFF AFTER ALL.

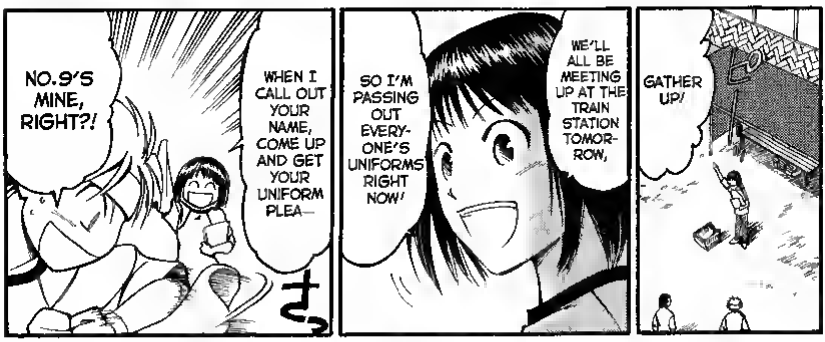
...ALL RIGHT THEN,
IS THIS OKAY WITH YOU GUYS?

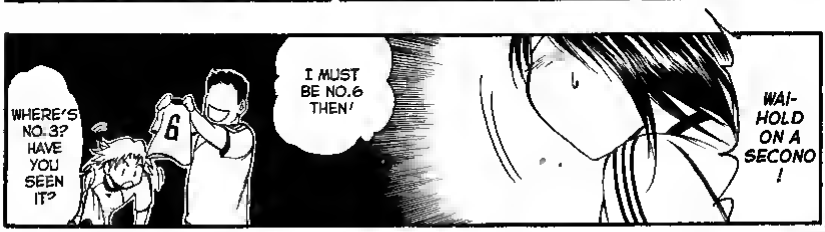
SENSEI, THERE'S SOMETHING I HAVE TO ASK!
THIS IS PROBABLY REALLY OBVIOUS, BUT YOU DO HAVE EXPERIENCE IN SOCCER, RIGHT?!
IF YOU LOOK AT THIS OVER HERE, YOU'LL SEE I EVEN HAVE A LICENSE FOR IT.
Whoa!
YOU SERIOUS ?!


BUT... THIS IS A HARD TIME FOR THE CLUB.
HAVE FAITH IN YOUR COMEBACK, AND KEEP EVERYTHING RUNNING AS IT SHOULD.
IGARASHI, AS THE CAPTAIN, BECOME THE PIVOTAL POINT OF THE TEAM,
AND OO AS YOU SEE FIT.

...THAT WAS MY INTENTION.
ALL RIGHT, TODAY'S THE LAST DAY TO PRACTICE
LET'S FINISH UP ALL OF THIS QUICKLY AND FOCUS ALL OUR ENERGY ON PRACTICING!
YES SIR!




NO.9'S MINE, RIGHT?!
WHEN I CALL OUT YOUR NAME, COME UP AND GET YOUR UNIFORM PLEA—
SO I'M PASSING OUT EVERY-ONE'S UNIFORMS RIGHT NOW!
WE'LL ALL BE MEETING UP AT THE TRAIN STATION TOMOR-ROW,
GATHER UP!


WHERE'S NO.3? HAVE YOU SEEN IT?
I MUST BE NO.6 THEN!
WAI- HOLD ON A SECONO !

……
NO, THAT'S NOT GOOD AT ALL!
UH, KURO-SAWA, ANY NUMBER'S GOOD FOR ME, THANKS.
NO.6 GOES TO MISATO-SENPAI!
WH-WHAT THE HECK? THIS IS WAY TOO TINY...
IZA

12
!?
I THINK I WAS NO.12 BEFORE ...
!?
!?
!?
TAKE IT.
YOURS IS THIS ONE RIGHT HERE.
SUBBING FOR GOAL...
PFFT!
WHOA, NOW, AMAKUSA, THAT'S...
AH...
AMA-KUSA.
THERE'S NO WAY YOU'RE SUBBING FOR GOALIE, RIGHT?!
AS IF A MIDGET LIKE YOU COULD WEAR THAT, AMAKUSA!
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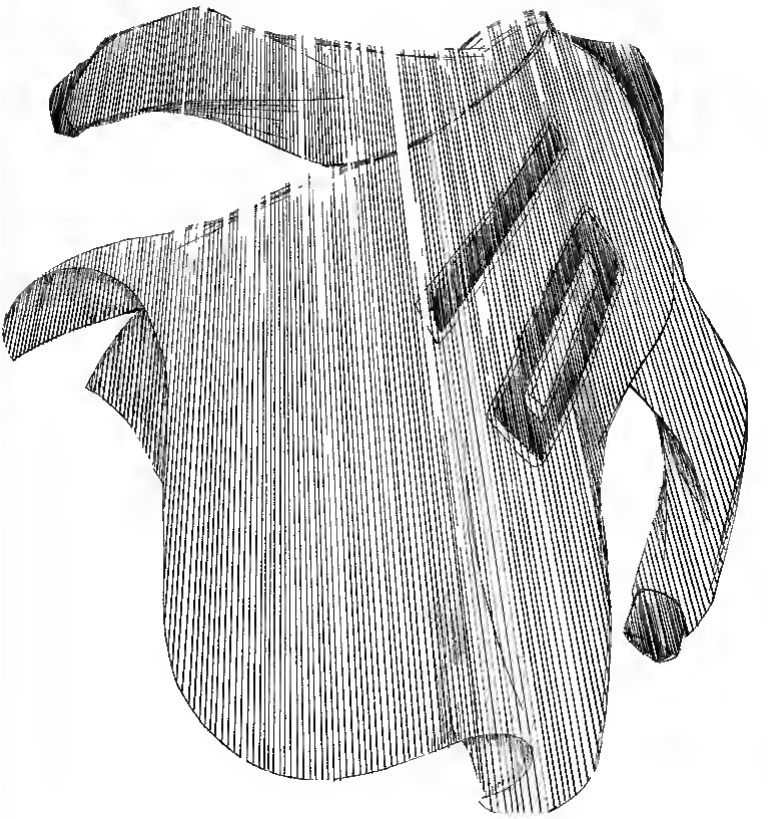
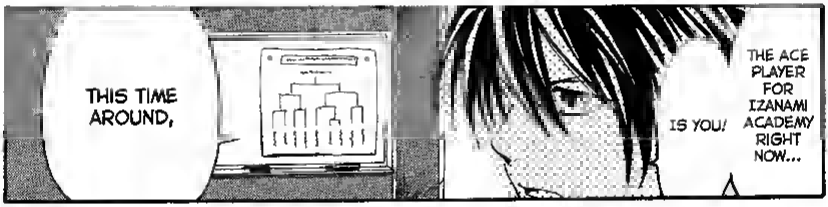
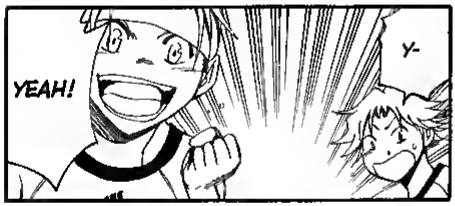
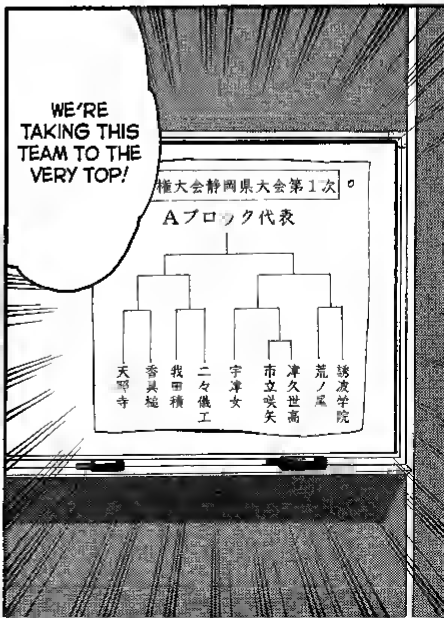


.....!
IGARA-SHI...
THAT'S... MASAKI'S NO.10 UNIFORM...
KAIN-KUN.
THAT'S THE NUMBER ASSIGNED TO IZANAMI ACADEMY'S ACE PLAYER...
ハヤ...
AH...

AMA-KUSA.
DON'T CHICKEN OUT ON US.
HUH...


THE ACE PLAYER FOR IZANAMI ACADEMY RIGHT NOW...
IS YOU!
THIS TIME AROUND,


Y-
YEAH!

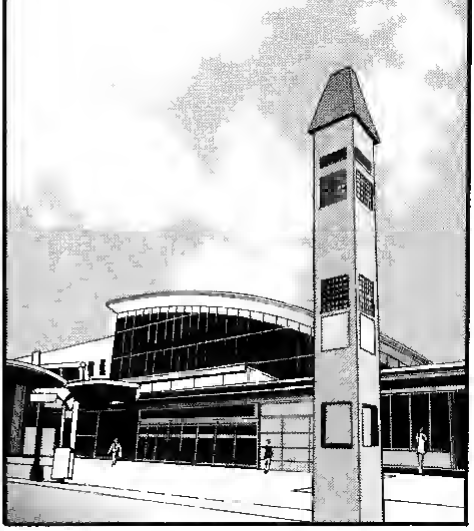

WE'RE TAKING THIS TEAM TO THE VERY TOP!
種大会静岡県大会第１次。
Aブロック代表
誘波学院
荒ノ尾
凍久世高
市立咲矢
宇津女
二々儀工
我田精
香具地
天野寺

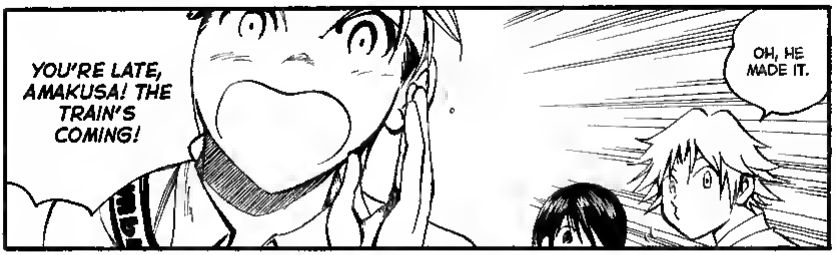
HMPH...
THIS TIME AROUND... I'M WEARING THIS UNIFORM... HUH.

THE TEAM ...!
LET'S DO THIS!
IZA-NAMI,
FIGHT FOR THE WIN!
YEAH!

...YES, THIS IS IZANAMI ACADEMY IN SHIZUOKA.
SOME TIME AGO, A SOCCER SPRITZ ASKED ME TO COME COLLECT DATA...
HUH?
OH NO, NO, NOTHING LIKE THAT.
I'VE GOTTEN MYSELF INTO A REALLY GOOD PLACE THIS TIME AROUND.
YES, THAT'S RIGHT, THAT MASAKI-KUN.
IN ANY CASE, IT SEEMS THERE ARE SOME REALLY GOOD PLAYERS HERE, OF MASAKI-KUN'S CLASS...
ABSOLUTELY. I'LL SEND YOU MY RECOMMENDATIONS OF WHO TO PAY MOST ATTENTION TO FROM THE PRELIMINARIES AND ONWARDS.

Chapter 14: The First Match



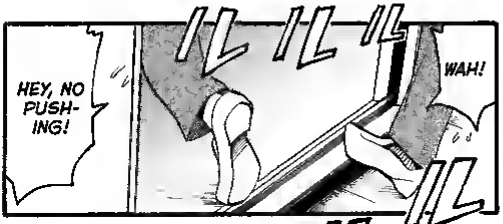


(T/N: BENTOU LUNCHES ARE JAPANESE BOX LUNCHES, WHICH AT TIMES CAN BE IMMACULATELY DESIGNED FOR DIFFERENT SITUATIONS.)

.....
...THIS IS WHAT SHE MADE FOR YOU?
SHE GOT UP AT FOUR IN THE MORNING TO MAKE IT FOR ME!

ぎゅぎゅ

WHAT, LIKE SOME ELEMENTARY SCHOOL KID'S HOUSE SHOES OR SOMETHING?!
AMAKUSA-SENSEI ISN'T ALL THAT SKILLED WITH MAKING STUFF...
THE SHOES IN HERE WERE MADE BY HER, TOO!


HEY, NO PUSH-ING!
WAH!

SPLIT UP AND GET ON!
THE TRAIN'S HERE.

JUST HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO GROAN AND MOAN FOR, TSUBAKI?!
UUU GH...

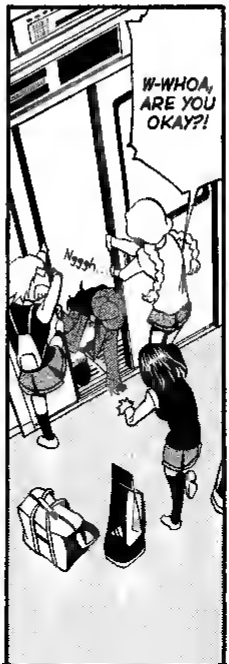
YOU DON'T REALIZE HOW POPULAR YOU ARE NOW.
ISN'T THAT OBVIOUS?

HARUKA ...
DO I REALLY HAVE TO WEAR THIS DISGUISE?

BUT THINK ABOUT HOW LIFE IS WHEN YOU TAKE ONE STEP OUT OF THAT SAFE ZONE.
THE STUDENTS AT OUR SCHOOL ARE USED TO YOU,

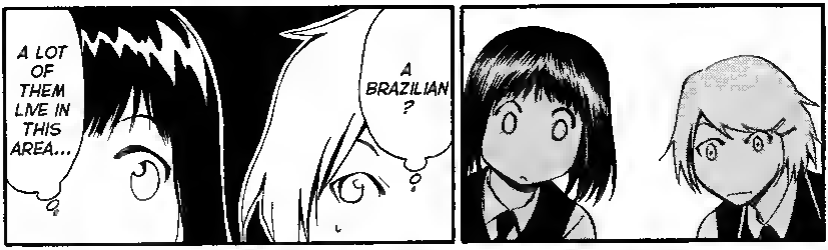
THE TRAIN IS NOW LEAVING. THE DOORS WILL CLOSE SHORTLY.
Ugh...
Uhuhuhu
THAT DISGUISE WORKS SO WELL FOR YOU, SENPAI!

ARE YOU OKAY?! ARE YOU HURT ANYWHERE ?!
TRYING TO RUSH THE TRAIN IS PRETTY DANGER-OUS.

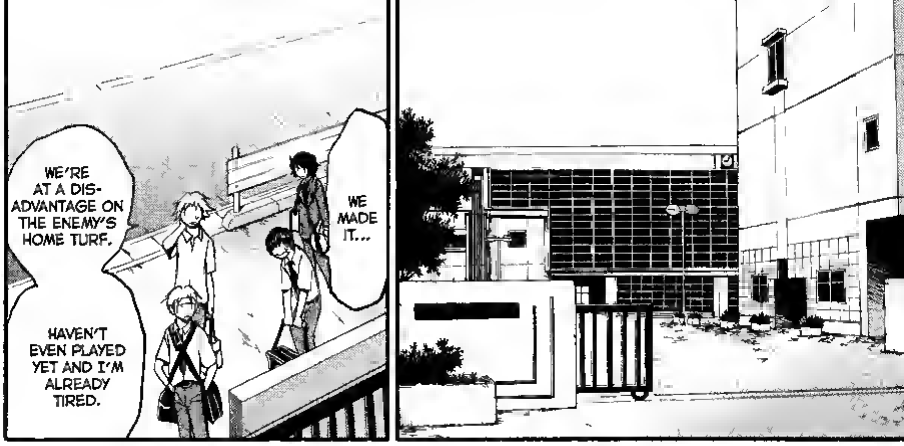

W-WHOA, ARE YOU OKAY?!
Noggh...

KYAA!

I- I AM SORRY!
Sim..


A LOT OF THEM LIVE IN THIS AREA...
A BRAZILIAN ?

YEP, WE'RE FINE ON THIS END.
DID EVERYONE GET ON?
WHAT'S WRONG ?!


WE'RE AT A DIS-ADVANTAGE ON THE ENEMY'S HOME TURF.
WE MADE IT...
HAVEN'T EVEN PLAYED YET AND I'M ALREADY TIRED.

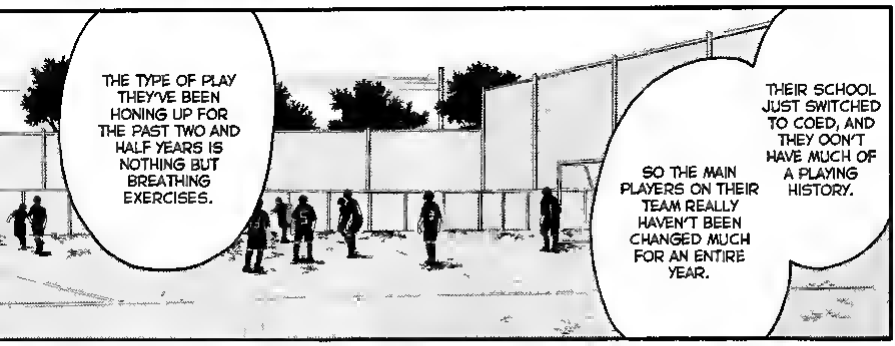
MAYBE WE CAN GET A BUS FOR OUR FUTURE AWAY GAMES. .
UHHH ...
COME ON, HURRY UP!
OUR PRACTICE TIME'S TICKING AWAY!

NO WAY!
WHY ARE THEY COMING TO SEE THE FIRST GAME OF A REGIONAL'S PRELIMINARIES ?!
WHOA, TAKE A LOOK AT THAT!
A TEAM OF REPORTERS CAME TO SEE THE GAME!
SAME AS US, THEN.
THEY DON'T HAVE A GRASS PITCH.
HUH?!

DO YOU HAVE YOUR ADMISSION PASSES?
PLEASE OVERLOOK THE GAME OVER HERE IN THE NEWS CREW AREA.
.....
PERHAPS MY NEW MEMBERS HAVE BEEN QUITE EFFECTIVE!
I SUPPOSE I'VE BECOME A BIT FAMOUS MYSELF!
YES MA'AM.
THEN LET'S GO AHEAD AND WORK WITH THE BALL.
WE'VE GOT TO HAND THE GROUND OVER TO IZANAMI ACADEMY 20 MINUTES BEFORE THE GAME STARTS!
HAVE YOU FINISHED WARMING UP?
AH, YOSHI-WAZA-KUN!
YES MA'AM.
I THOUGHT IT WAS JUST A STORY FLOATING
I OVERHEARD A BIT OF WHAT THE CAMERAMAN SAID EARLIER...
REPORTERS WON'T COME TO A SCHOOL THAT ONLY MADE IT TO THE TOP 32.
I GUESS COACH SAKURA DOESN'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT THE GOING-ONS WITHIN THE PREFECTURE.
MAN, OH MAN.

SUPPOSEDLY, THERE'S THIS KID AS GOOD AS MASAKI WHO JOINED THEIR TEAM.
DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE THING WITH IZANAMI ACADEMY?
WHAT THE HELL WAS HE TALKING ABOUT?!

BY THE WAY,
WHAT KIND OF SOCCER DO THOSE GUYS PLAY?
PAY MORE ATTENTION; HE SAID IT AT THE MEETING.
THEY'RE A TEAM THAT BOASTS OF SYSTEMATIC COOPERATIVE PLAY.
HEY.
SUSANOO HIGH STARTED PRACTIC-ING.

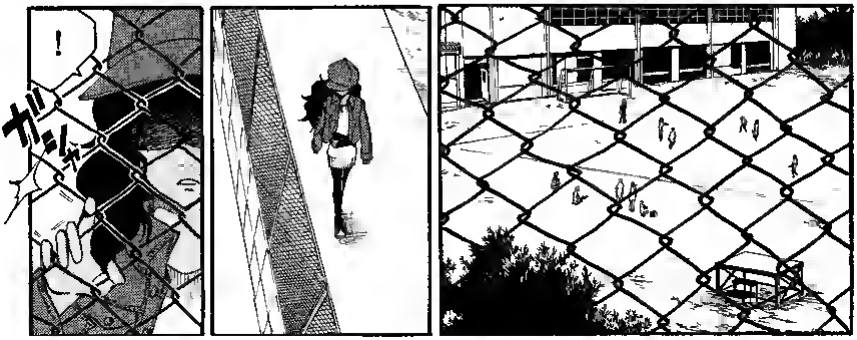

THE TYPE OF PLAY THEY'VE BEEN HONING UP FOR THE PAST TWO AND HALF YEARS IS NOTHING BUT BREATHING EXERCISES.
SO THE MAIN PLAYERS ON THEIR TEAM REALLY HAVEN'T BEEN CHANGED MUCH FOR AN ENTIRE YEAR.
THEIR SCHOOL JUST SWITCHED TO COED, AND THEY DON'T HAVE MUCH OF A PLAYING HISTORY.

NOT KNOWING ANYTHING ABOUT THE OPPONENT PUTS BOTH TEAMS IN THE SAME SITUATION
INTER-ESTING, ISN'T IT?
YOU'RE HAVING WAY TOO MUCH FUN, BRAT.
WOW!
THEY PASSED THE BALL AROUND REALLY FAST!
IF WE FALL INTO THEIR TRAP, WE'RE DONE FOR...

AND TO THINK YOU'D TAKE US THREE OUT OF THE STARTING LINEUP...
YOU MUST HAVE SOME CONFIDENCE THERE, IGARASHI.
IZA NAHI
IZA NAHI
IT'S STILL JUST THE FIRST MATCH!
WE JUST THOUGHT IT WAS A BIT TOO EARLY TO BE ASKING FOR YOUR HELP.
Ahuh
Hah
A BASTARD WITH NO CHARM WHATSOEVER
IF SHE COMES AROUND, DON'T HESITATE TO SWITCH YOURSELVES IN. IT'S NO BIG DEAL.
IF YOU AREN'T OVER THERE, WE MIGHT MISS OUT ON SOMETHING IMPORTANT.
TRUTH IS, KAIN'S GOT A WEAK BODY.
DO ME A FAVOR AND MAKE SURE HE'S PUT ON THE RESERVES.

WELL,
IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE THAT WILL BE MUCH OF A PROBLEM, REALLY.

U-UM, WADA-SENSEI,
WILL KAIN-KUN BE IN FOR THE ENTIRE GAME?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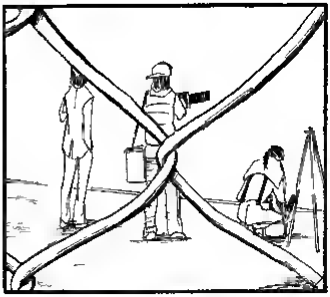
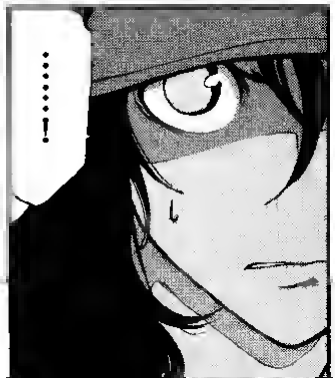
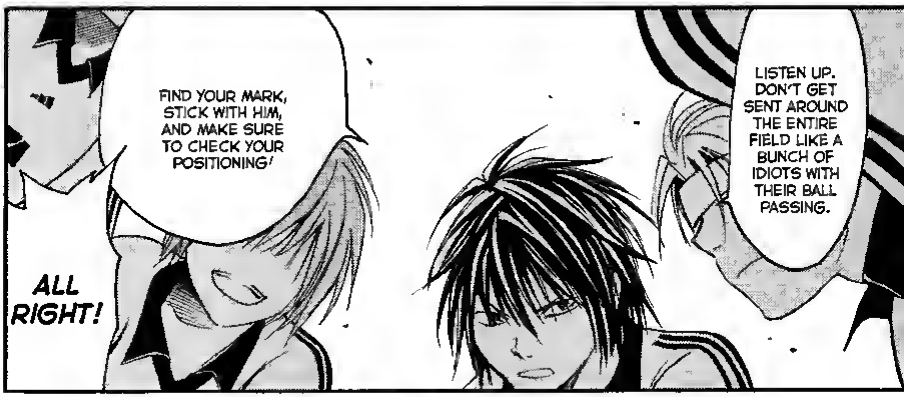
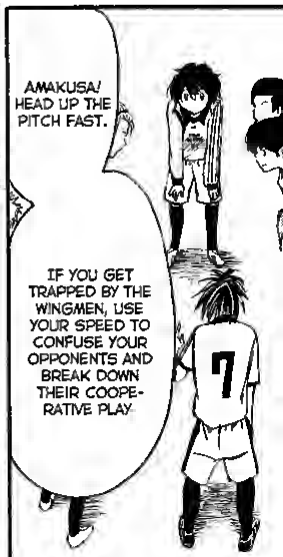



……!

ALL RIGHT GUYS! WE'VE GOT THAT TEAM PLAY WE'VE BEEN WORKING ON FOR THE PAST THREE YEARS!
WE CAN'T LOSE TO A TEAM THAT'S JUST COMING BACK TO THE CIRCUIT!
YEAH!


LISTEN UP. DON'T GET SENT AROUND THE ENTIRE FIELD LIKE A BUNCH OF IDIOTS WITH THEIR BALL PASSING.
FIND YOUR MARK, STICK WITH HIM, AND MAKE SURE TO CHECK YOUR POSITIONING!
ALL RIGHT!

SI...
YES SIR!


AMAKUSA! HEAD UP THE PITCH FAST.
IF YOU GET TRAPPED BY THE WINGMEN, USE YOUR SPEED TO CONFUSE YOUR OPPONENTS AND BREAK DOWN THEIR COOPERATIVE PLAY
7

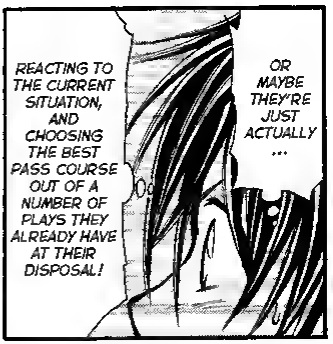
KICK OFF!
THE SHIZUOKA PROVINCIAL TOURNAMENT. FIRST PRELIMINARY MATCH. IZANAMI ACAOEMY VERSUS SUSANOO HIGH SCHOOL!
10 AMAKUSA (1ST YEAR)
9 TAKEMDTO (2ND YEAR)
11 ODAGIRI (2ND YEAR)
3 NANJYDU (2ND YEAR)
14 IMANISHI (2ND YEAR)
7 IGARASHI (2ND YEAR)
8 MIYAKE (2ND YEAR)
13 HARADA (2ND YEAR)
12 UDAKA (2ND YEAR)
2 HORI (2ND YEAR)
1 MAEDA (2ND YEAR)
SUBS
4 TSURU (3RD YEAR)
5 KAJI (3RD YEAR)
6 MISATO (3RD YEAR)

YOU'RE TOO LATE.
BLOCK THEM BEFORE THEY START PASSING!
GET THEM!
AND AGAIN!
!
TH-THEY ARE FAST!
WHAT WAS WITH THOSE PASSES ?!
WHAT ?!

T.R.A.P. 2

TCH!
THEY DON'T WASTE TIME WITH THEIR PASSES, AND THEY'VE ALREADY GOT ANOTHER PASS ON THE WAY BEFORE YOU CAN EVEN FOLLOW IT!
THEY'RE WAY FASTER THAN I EXPECTED THEM TO BE!

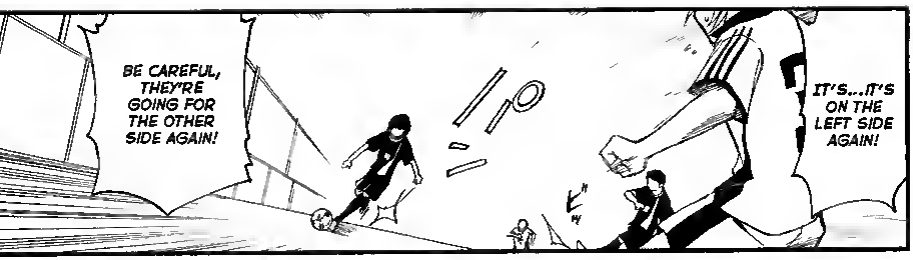
15
WITHOUT A DOUBT, THAT MUST BE SYSTEMATIC SOCCER!
EVEN STILL, THEY'RE ABLE TO ACTUALLY FOLLOW THROUGH WITH THE PLAYS!


REACTING TO THE CURRENT SITUATION, AND CHOOSING THE BEST PASS COURSE OUT OF A NUMBER OF PLAYS THEY ALREADY HAVE AT THEIR DISPOSAL!
OR MAYBE THEY'RE JUST ACTUALLY ...

AH...
ARE BEING DRAWN OVER TO THE SIDE OF THE FIELD.
A GOOD NUMBER OF THEM
TSURU-SENPAI ACTUALLY SAID SOME-THING!
ぎゅ
JUST GOTTA GET ONE MORE PERSON OVER HERE, AND THEN WE CAN HIT UP THE LEFT HARD!
OKAY THEN!
LET'S DO IT JUST LIKE WE PRACTICED!

NOW!
IGARASHI! THE OTHER SIDE!
DAMN!
!!
!!
RA AH!
THEY KICKED IT BACK TO THE CENTER OF THE FIELD?!
GAH!
DON'T LET THEM SCORE!
SHIT!
!?
パー

H-HE BLOCKED IT!
MAKE SURE TO GET THE REBO-
GAH?!


BE CAREFUL, THEY'RE GOING FOR THE OTHER SIDE AGAIN!
IT'S...IT'S ON THE LEFT SIDE AGAIN!

WE'VE GOT THE GOAL THIS TIME!
FROM THE AREA THAT REALLY COUNTS!
WHILE YOU RUN AWAY
JUST PAY ATTENTION TO THE FLANKS
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT.

WHA?! HE CUT THE BALL OFF?!
AMAKUSA ...?!
WHAT'S A FORWARD DOING OVER THERE?!

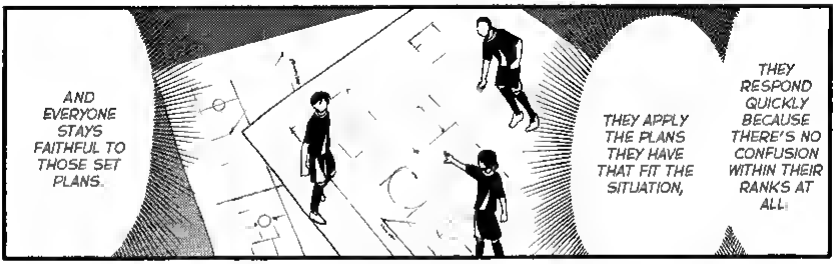
Chapter 15: Shuddering

IZA
NAMI
10
NICE CUT, AMAKUSA!
10
WHY'D A FORWARD FALL BACK DOWN THE PITCH THIS MUCH?!
HE CUT OFF THE BALL?!
THIS IS OUR CHANCE!
AMA-
KUSA!
9

THEY'RE COUNTER-ING!
SHIT...

WITH THESE KINDS OF TACTICS, MAKING A FORWARD PASS IS LIKE TAKING CANDY FROM A BABY!
ALL OF YOU GET YOUR HEADS ON STRAIGHT AND GET BACK UP HERE!
FALL BACK!
ドン
9

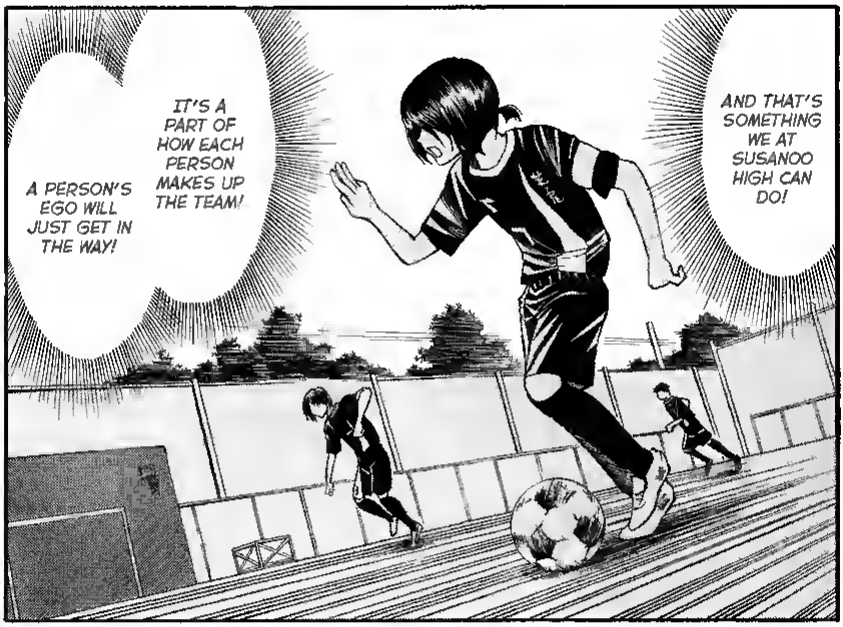
I CAN'T GET TO THE GOAL FROM OVER HERE!
SO YOU'RE GONNA CUT OFF MY PATH, HUH
TCH...
THERE WAS A GUY STILL LEFT UP HERE...
HE'S TOO SLOW WITH THE BALL...
AAHH, TAKEMOTO ...
THEY'RE QUICK, AT THE READY, AND HAVE A THOROUGH DIVISION OF WHAT ROLES THEY ALL PLAY.
THEY'RE PRETTY GOOD AT GETTING BACK ON DEFENSE TOGETHER, TOO!
THEY GOT BACK UP HERE FAST!
DAMN IT, I'VE BEEN SURROUND-ED!


AND EVERYONE STAYS FAITHFUL TO THOSE SET PLANS.
THEY APPLY THE PLANS THEY HAVE THAT FIT THE SITUATION,
THEY RESPOND QUICKLY BECAUSE THERE'S NO CONFUSION WITHIN THEIR RANKS AT ALL.

AUTOMATED SOCCER IS!
EXACTLY WHAT THE ULTIMATE,
THIS IS THE ONE THING THEIR TEAM HAS PRACTICED AND PERFECTED FOR A LONG TIME.
UNTIL JUST RECENTLY, YOU GUYS WERE A MESS AND ALL OVER THE PLACE...
HARD TO DEAL WITH, ISN'T IT, IGARASHI.

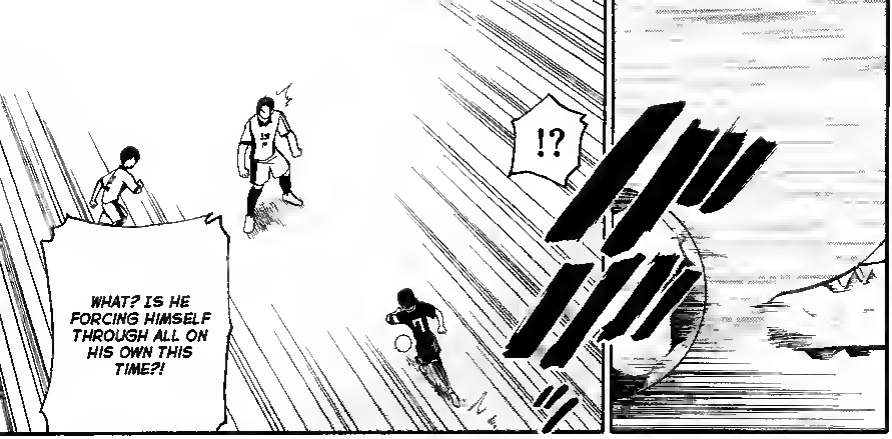
キッ
GET BACK!
AHH... THEY TOOK THE BALL!
Y-YES SIR!
LEAVE THE GOAL PROTECT-ING TO THE DEFEND-ERS!
YOU'RE A FORWARD, AREN'T YOU?!
GET UP THE FIELD AND COVER, AMAKUSA!
HE JUST HAPPENED TO BE IN THE RIGHT PLACE AT THE RIGHT TIME TO CUT IT OFF.
THE HELL...
THAT FORWARD JUST DID THAT ON A WHIM...

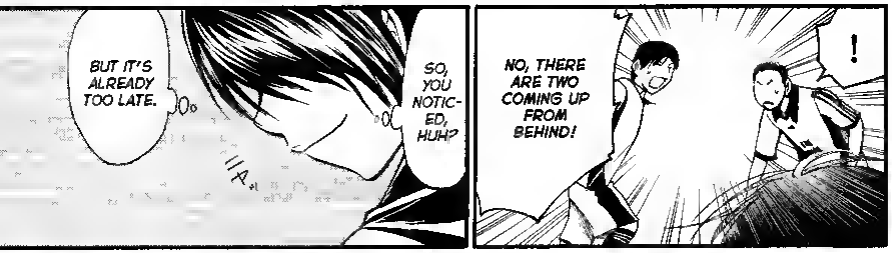
IT'S MORE OF A MATTER OF HOW MUCH YOU CAN TRUST IN YOUR TEAMMATES.
TALK IS CHEAP...
"ATTACK AND PENETRATE!", "DEFEND AND HIT THEM HARD!"...

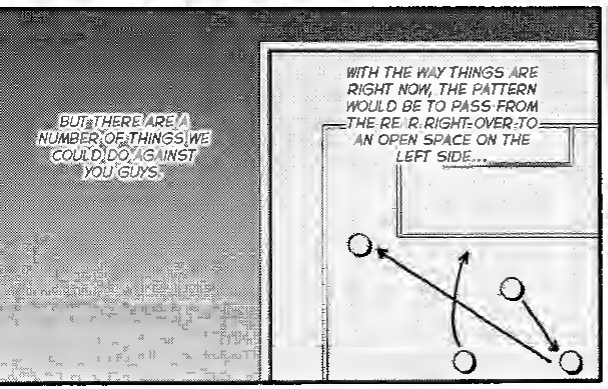

A PERSON'S EGO WILL JUST GET IN THE WAY!
IT'S A PART OF HOW EACH PERSON MAKES UP THE TEAM!
AND THAT'S SOMETHING WE AT SUSANOO HIGH CAN DO!

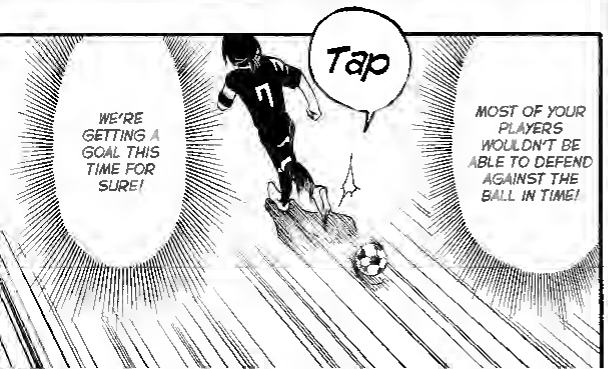
YOU CAN FIND OUT JUST HOW MUCH ONE HUMAN BEING CAN REALLY DO!
BECAUSE ON SUCH A BIG FIELD...

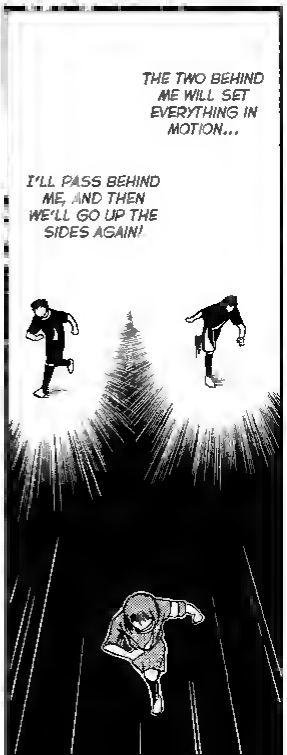
WHERE'S THE KID THAT'S SUPPOSED TO BE MASAKI'S REINCARNATION?
HEY...
I FEEL MORE LIKE SUSANOO'S THE ONE PRESSING IN ON THE OTHERS.
GUESS IT WAS JUST A STORY GOING AROUND. FIGURES.
UGH ...
Y-YES MA'AM!
FIRST YEARS! DON'T JUST SIT THERE WATCHING DUMBLY!
CALL OUT TO THE FIELD!
YEAH, WELL, A GUY WHO CAN CHANGE THE ATMOSPHERE OF A GAME SINGLE-HANDEDLY...
PRETTY MUCH DOESN'T EXIST.


WHAT? IS HE FORCING HIMSELF THROUGH ALL ON HIS OWN THIS TIME?!
!?


BUT IT'S ALREADY TOO LATE.
SO, YOU NOTICED, HUH?
NO, THERE ARE TWO COMING UP FROM BEHIND!
!


BUT THERE ARE A NUMBER OF THINGS WE COULD DO AGAINST YOU GUYS.
WITH THE WAY THINGS ARE RIGHT NOW, THE PATTERN WOULD BE TO PASS FROM THE R. R. RIGHT-OVER TO AN OPEN SPACE ON THE LEFT SIDE...


Tap
WE'RE GETTING A GOAL THIS TIME FOR SURE!
MOST OF YOUR PLAYERS WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO DEFEND AGAINST THE BALL IN TIME!


THE TWO BEHIND ME WILL SET EVERYTHING IN MOTION...
I'LL PASS BEHIND ME, AND THEN WE'LL GO UP THE SIDES AGAIN!

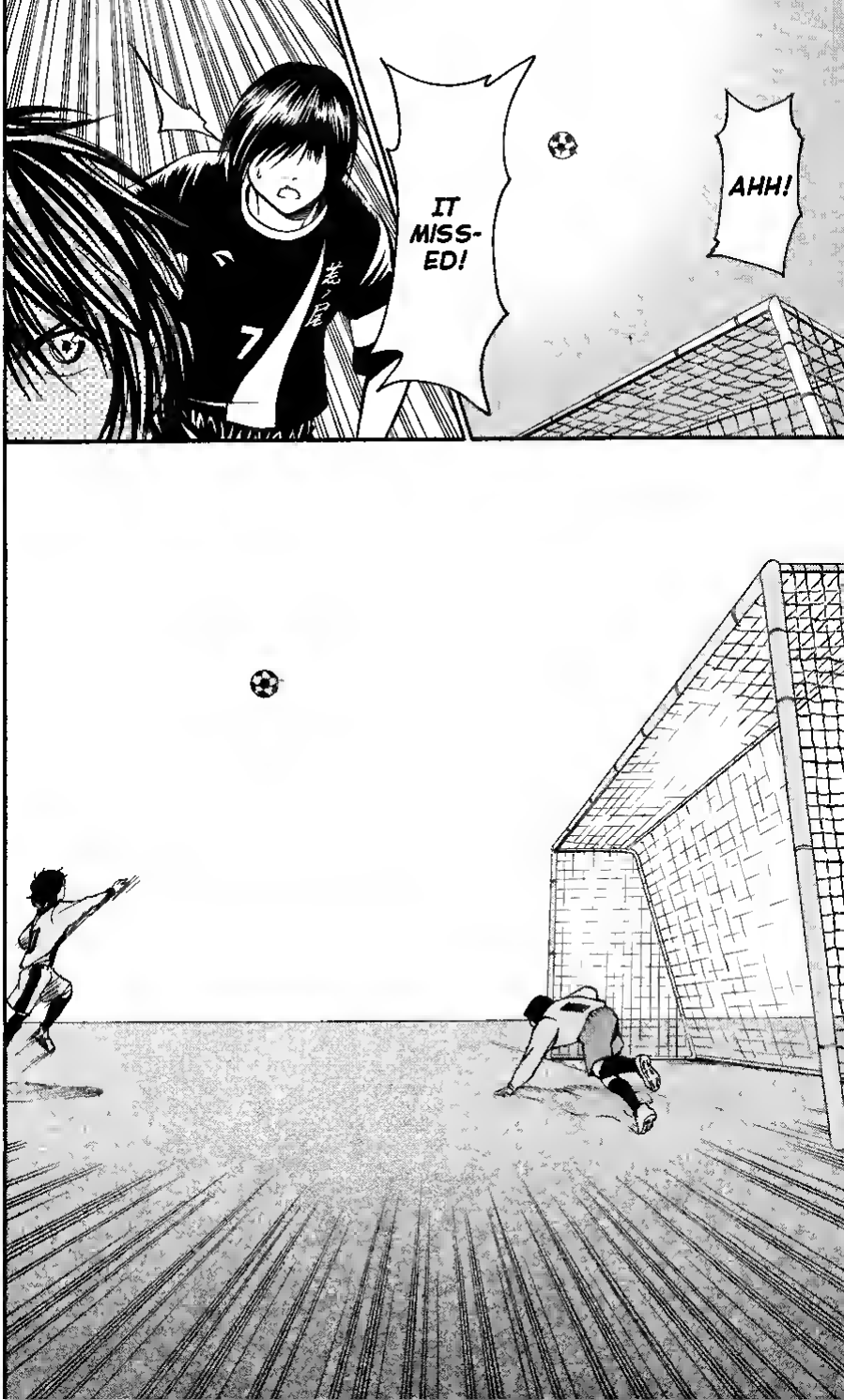
HUH?
!!
HUH? WAIT, I SWEAR THAT'S THE SAME LITTLE GUY THAT...
GO UP THE FIELD!
O-OKAY!

THAT NO.10 IS THE ONE-MAN-TEAM!
I KNOW WHAT THIS TEAM IS NOW...
CALM DOWN!
H-HOW'D HE DO THAT TWICE IN A ROW?!
DAMN!
BUT, WHAT CAN JUST ONE PERSON DO?!
THE GUY THEY WERE TALKING ABOUT... "THE KID AS GOOD AS MASAKI"...
THEN... HE'S PROBABLY...
!
LISTEN! IF YOU USE NUMBERS TO BLOCK HIM,
DEAL WITH THAT ONE-MAN-TEAM!
THEN YOU CAN ATTACK BACK UP THE SIDES!

!!
A HEEL PASS?
Tap
!?
AH...
GOOD ONE, AMAKUSA!

WHAT WAS WITH THAT COOPERA-TIVE PLAY?!
WHA...
.....!
YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENS NOW, RIGHT, AMAKUSA?!
ALL RIGHT, GOT IT!
OR I CAN'T CALL MYSELF A MAN!
I'VE GOT TO GET A GOAL,
WITH NO ONE MARKING ME JUST THIS ONCE,
FORWARDS SCORE THE GOALS, NO MATTER WHAT!

!!
Ahh
THAT'S REALLY FAR!
GO IN!


IT MISS-ED!
AHH!

CHAPTER 16 :

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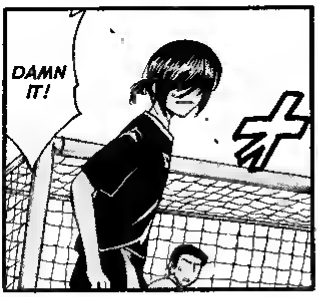
IT'S IN!!
IT... IT WENT IN...?


DAMN IT!

OH YEAH! WE'VE GOT THE LEAD!
AWE-SOME, AMAKUSA!
THE GOAL SCORER WAS IZANAMI ACADEMY'S NO. 10, AMAKUSA KAIN-KUN!

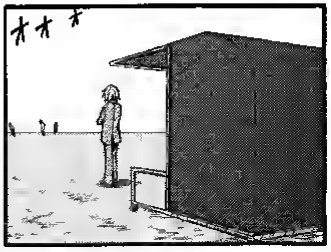
WHAT THE HELL IS HE?!
HE REACTS WAY TOO FAST!

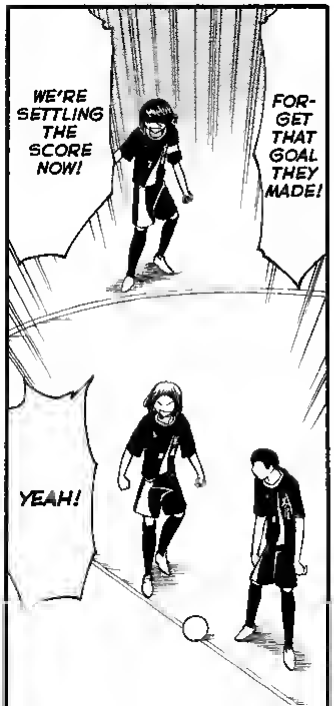
THAT NO. 10 SHOULD'VE BEEN BACK THERE AT THE HALFWAY LINE UP UNTIL JUST A MOMENT AGO!
HOW'D HE CLOSE IN ON THAT DISTANCE WITHOUT ANY PROBLEMS?

THAT WAS A GOOD GOAL!
YOU FINISHED IT OFF WELL.
!
Y-YES SIR!
.....!
IF YOU SEE AN OPENING, GO FOR IT.
NAH, I DON'T CARE ABOUT THAT.
!
I THOUGHT I COULD MAKE THE GOAL...
WH-WHAT?!
TAKE-MOTO!

PLAY AS YOU SEE FIT!
IT'S MORE ADVANTAGEOUS TO US TO USE WEIRD ATTACK STYLES THAT DON'T FIT INTO THEIR SETUP.
THEIR PATTERNS ARE CHANGING.

SO IT WOULD SEEM...
WE'VE GOT A HEAD START, NOW.

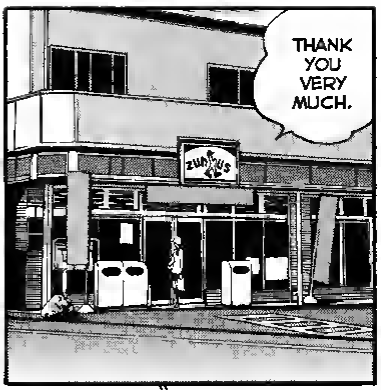



WE'RE SETTLING THE SCORE NOW!
FORGET THAT GOAL THEY MADE!
YEAH!

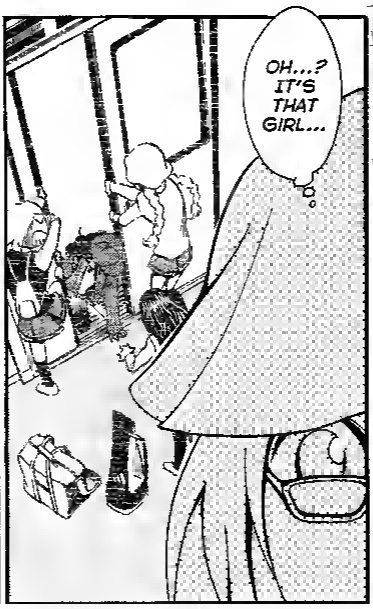
THE OPPONENT WILL TRY HARD TO PAY US BACK FOR THAT.

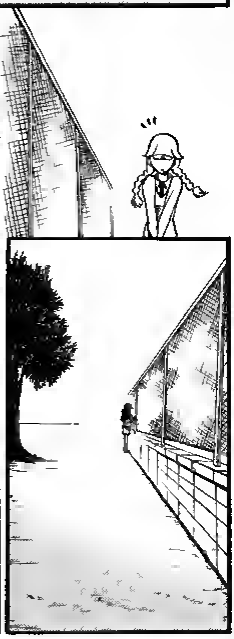
I'D BETTER HURRY BACK
HAVE TO PREPARE THE DRINKS BEFORE HALF-TIME...

LET'S SEE... I'VE GOT THE ICE AND THE TRASH BAGS...
I'VE GOT EVERYTHING HARUKA ASKED FOR.
ICE

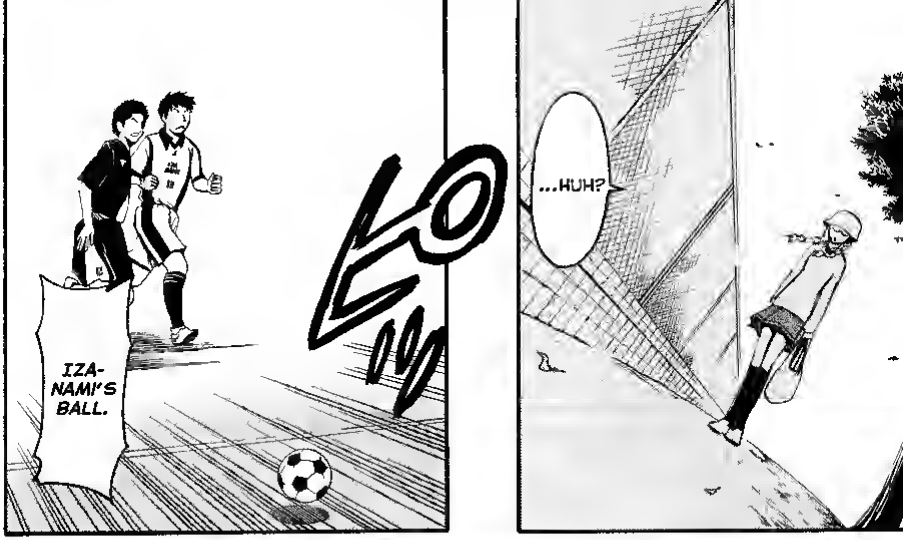

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

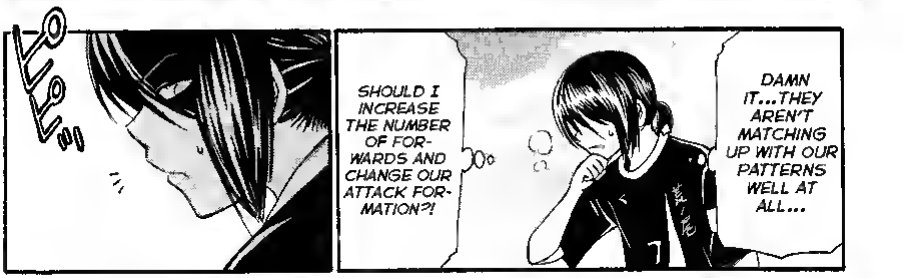
!


OH...? IT'S THAT GIRL...



UM...
OH, SHE DOESN'T UNDERSTAND JAPANESE...
.....
ARE YOU WATCHING THE SOCCER MATCH?
SO WE MEET AGAIN.
KAIN...?
WHO GOT IT IN?!
HUH?! THEY GOT A GOAL?!
OH, HEY!
IF YOU'D LIKE, WE CAN HEAD DOWN TOGE-...
ARE YOU SERIOUS?!
TSUBAKI, HURRY UP! KAIN-KUN SCORED!

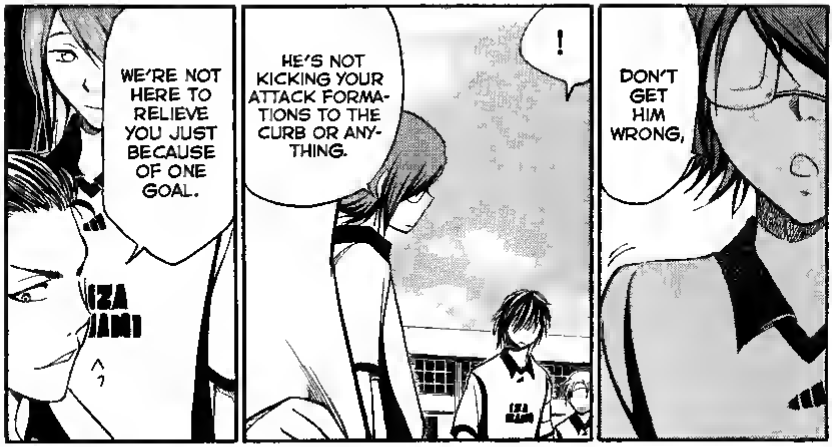

IZA-
NAMI'S
BALL.
...HUH?


SHOULD I INCREASE THE NUMBER OF FOR-WARDS AND CHANGE OUR ATTACK FOR-MATION?!
DAMN IT...THEY AREN'T MATCHING UP WITH OUR PATTERNS WELL AT ALL...

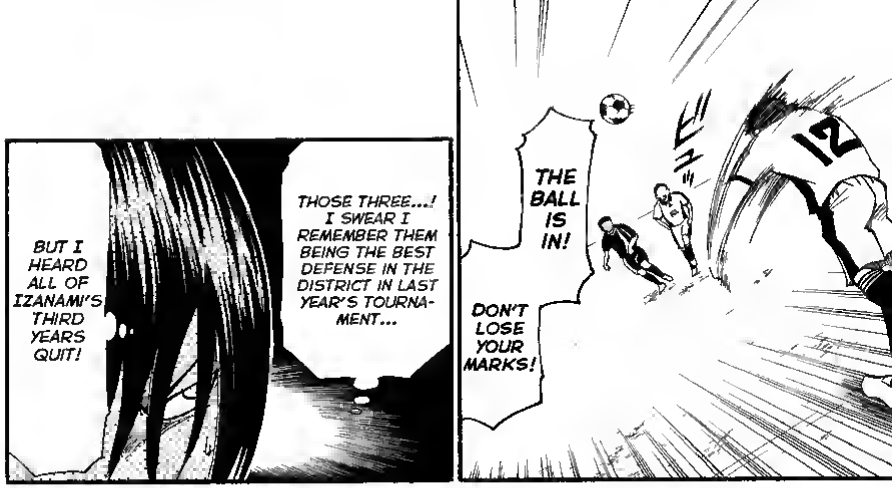
THREE PEOPLE ALL AT ONCE?! AND AREN'T THEY ALL DEFEND-ERS?!
WHAT?!

ARE YOU TELLING US TO DEFEND THAT ONE GOAL TO THE END?!
WHOA NOW, WADA-SAN...
IZA
NAM

IN PLACE OF PLAY-ERS NO.2 HORI-KUN, NO.3 NANJYOU-KUN, AND NO. 13 HARADA-KUN,
A PLAYER SUBSTI-TUTION FOR IZANAMI ACADEMY, 28 MINUTES INTO THE FIRST HALF!
NO.4 TSURU-KUN, NO 5 KAJI-KUN, AND NO.6 MISATO-KUN TAKE THE FIELD.


DON'T GET HIM WRONG,
!
HE'S NOT KICKING YOUR ATTACK FORMATIONS TO THE CURB OR ANYTHING.
WE'RE NOT HERE TO RELIEVE YOU JUST BECAUSE OF ONE GOAL.

TO KEEP THEM FROM SCORING,
WE'RE GOING TO GET A SECOND GOAL, AND MAYBE EVEN A THIRD ONE...
LET US OLD COOTS HAVE A LITTLE FUN, EH?


THOSE THREE...! I SWEAR I REMEMBER THEM BEING THE BEST DEFENSE IN THE DISTRICT IN LAST YEAR'S TOURNAMENT...
BUT I HEARD ALL OF IZANAMI'S THIRD YEARS QUIT!
THE BALL IS IN!
DON'T LOSE YOUR MARKS!
12

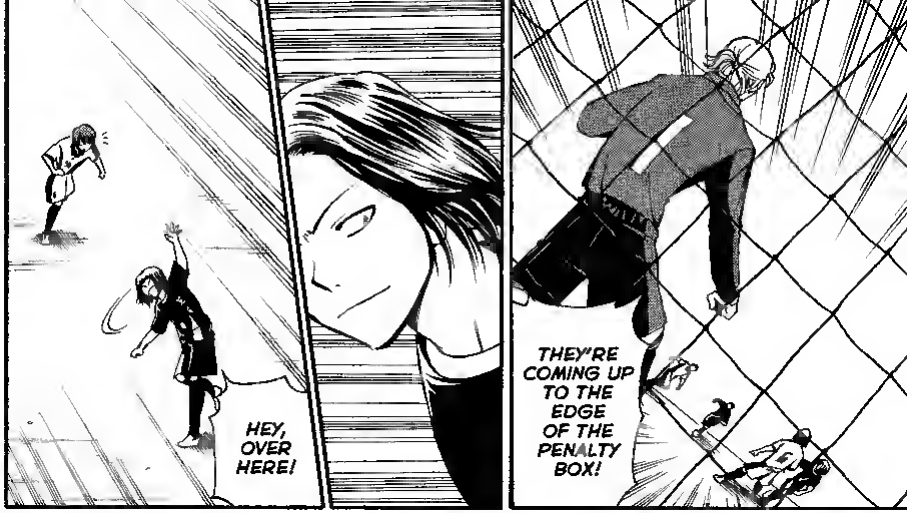
SO THEY PLAN TO JUST CRUISE ON BY TO VICTORY...
THAT'S SO REASSURING...
NOW THAT WE'RE HERE, YOU CAN HEAD OFF TO SLEEP IF YOU WANT.
YO, MAEDA.
SO THEY'RE WHAT'S LEFT OF THE RELIEF...HOW SHREWD.

THEY ARE LIVELY ALL OF A SUDDEN.
ワア
アア
OH, OH...

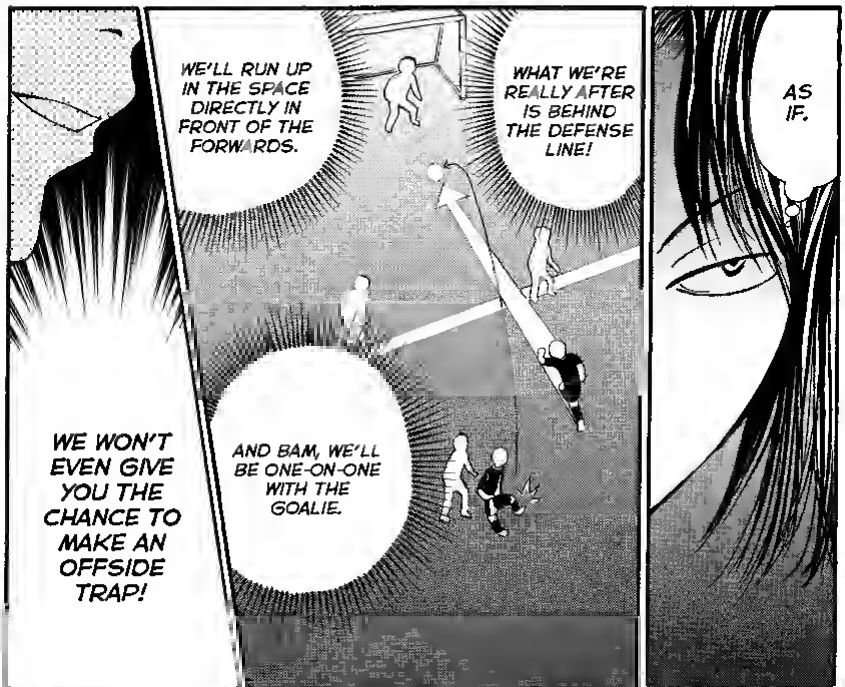
WE KNOW.
KAJI, TSURU!
THAT FORMATION...
!

HE CUT ACROSS?!
FOLLOW HIM UP!
AS IF WE'LL LET THAT HAPPEN!

DAMN!
THERE'S NO WAY TO GET USED TO THAT SPEED IN THE MIDDLE OF A MATCH...!
THEIR HIGH SPEED PASSES!
THERE IT IS!
STAY BACK, AMAKUSA!
HEY!
WE'VE GOT THE DEFENSE COVERED.
THE ONLY THING WE'RE GOING TO THINK ABOUT IS GETTING ANOTHER GOAL.
LET'S GO GET ONE!
YES SIR!


HEY, OVER HERE!
THEY'RE COMING UP TO THE EDGE OF THE PENALTY BOX!

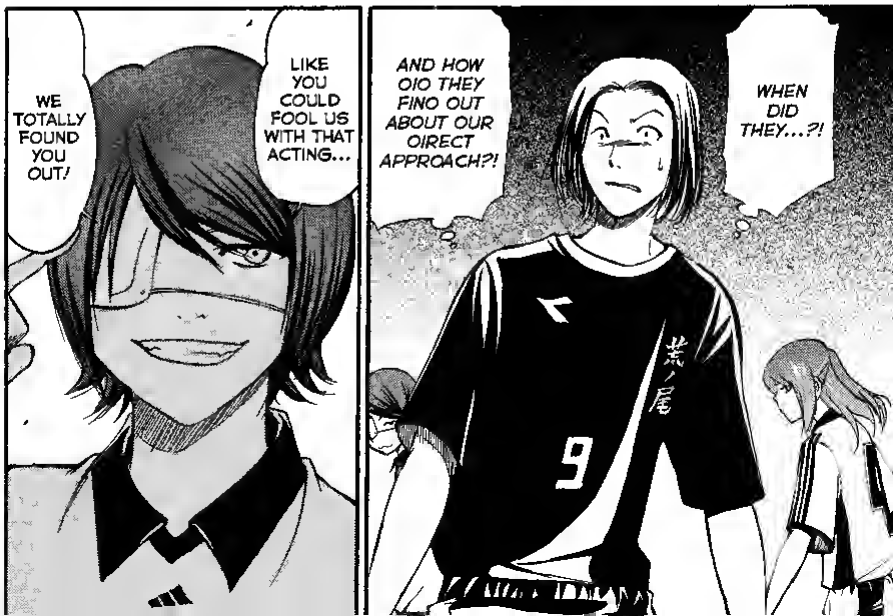
AND CUT STRAIGHT THROUGH WITH DRIBBLING!
I'LL TAKE THE PASS OVER HERE.
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT. NOW YOU'VE GOTTA MARK ME, DON'T YA?

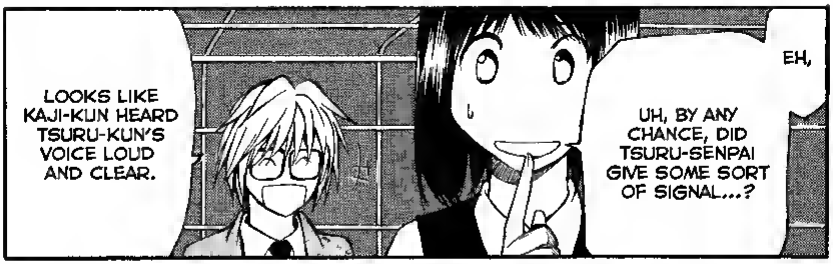

WE'LL RUN UP IN THE SPACE DIRECTLY IN FRONT OF THE FORWARDS.
WHAT WE'RE REALLY AFTER IS BEHIND THE DEFENSE LINE!
AS IF.
WE WON'T EVEN GIVE YOU THE CHANCE TO MAKE AN OFFSIDE TRAP!
AND BAM, WE'LL BE ONE-ON-ONE WITH THE GOALIE.

TSURU, WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU!
ACT LIKE I'M DOING A CHEST TRAP AND...
RUN FOR IT, TAGUCHI! I'M DROPPING IT RIGHT IN FRONT OF YOU!
AND THEN WE'RE GOING TO PULL ONE BACK!

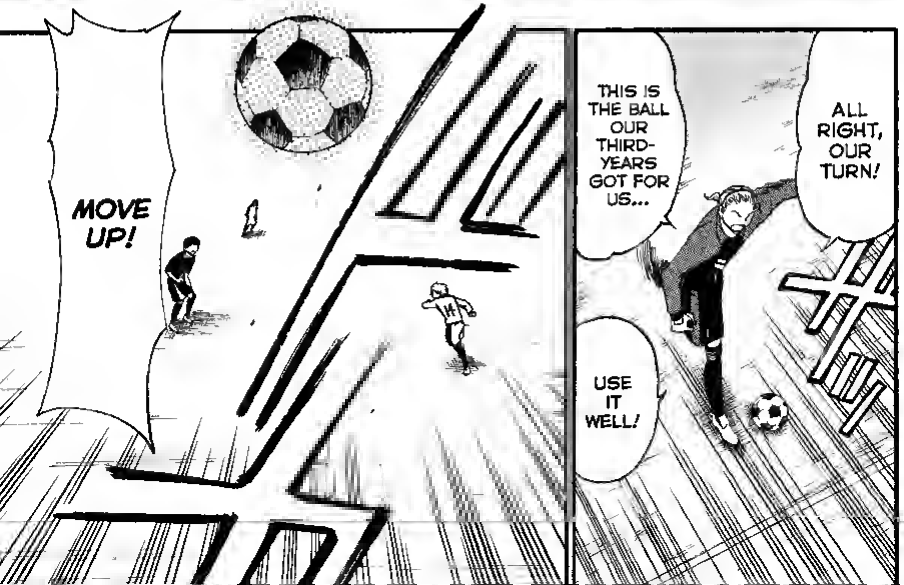
OFFSIDE!
ピピーッ

HUH?!
THE LINE MOVED UP?!
WH-WHAT, WHY?
HUH?!


WHEN DID THEY...?!
AND HOW DID THEY FIND OUT ABOUT OUR DIRECT APPROACH?!
LIKE YOU COULD FOOL US WITH THAT ACTING...
WE TOTALLY FOUND YOU OUT!


EH,
UH, BY ANY CHANCE, DID TSURU-SENPAI GIVE SOME SORT OF SIGNAL...?
LOOKS LIKE KAJI-KUN HEARD TSURU-KUN'S VOICE LOUD AND CLEAR.

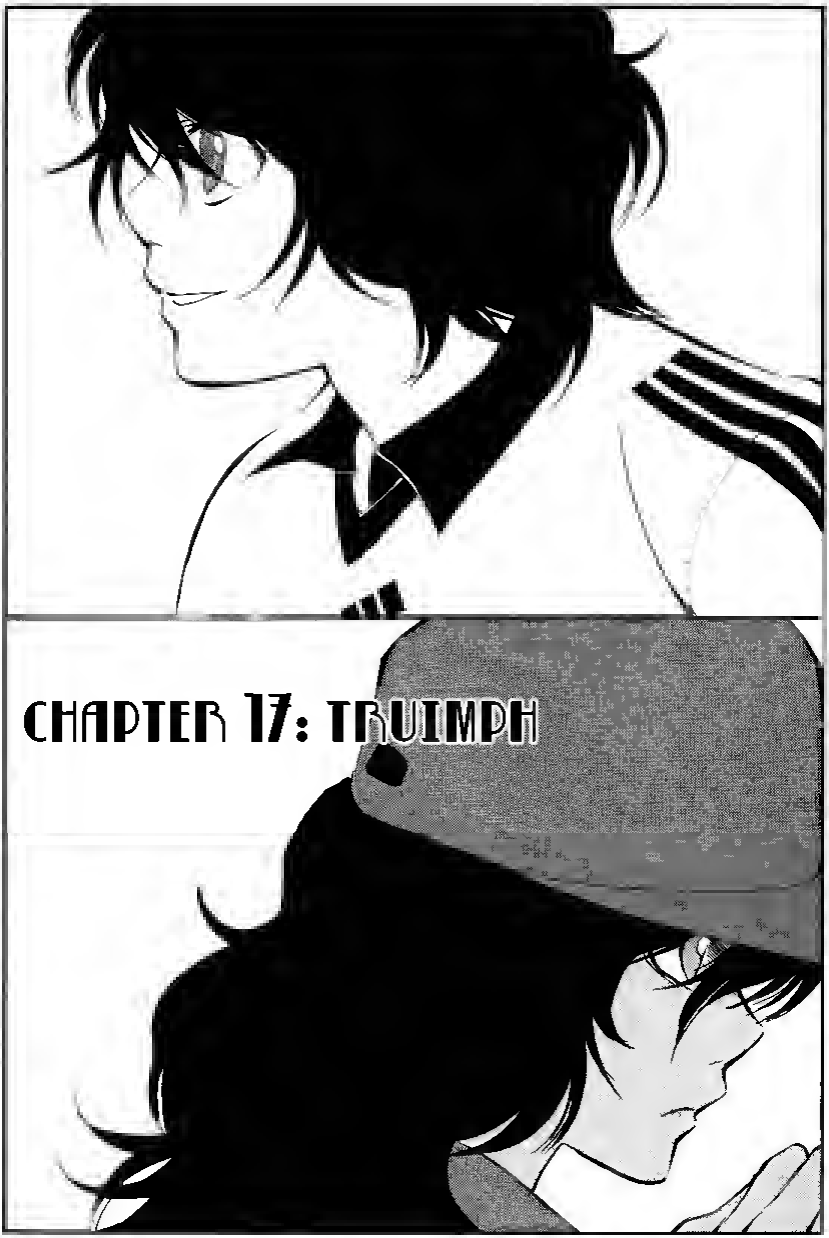
JUDGING THE TIMING OF THE PASS ON HIS OWN IS SOMETHING ELSE TSURU-KUN IS TERRIFIC WITH....
BUT, I MUST SAY THAT THEIR EXPERIENCE PROVED QUITE VALUABLE HERE.
IF IT'S A FIXED ATTACK PATTERN, THOSE THREE WILL MORE THAN LIKELY SEE THROUGH IT BECAUSE OF THEIR EXPERIENCE.


ALL RIGHT, OUR TURN!
THIS IS THE BALL OUR THIRD-YEARS GOT FOR US...
USE IT WELL!
MOVE UP!

GO FOR IT, IGARASHI!
YOUR MARK'S MOVING UP!
I...
HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO ADMIT IT.
MASAKI, WHO ALWAYS MATCHED UP WITH MY PASSES,
AND UNDERSTOOD MY LINES OF THINKING...
WAS ALWAYS THERE WHERE I WANTED HIM TO BE.

BUT THIS KID IS THE EXACT SAME.
O/C: ROBOTS, OBVIOUSLY.
HEH, WHO WERE YOU KICKING IT TO?
THERE'S NO ONE TH-
!?
110
110

HE...
IS THE SAME AS MASAKI WAS.
I DIDN'T WANT TO ADMIT IT,
BUT HE RAN TO WHERE I WANTED HIM TO BE.
WHA?!
GET OUR SECOND GOAL!
RUN, AMAKUSA!

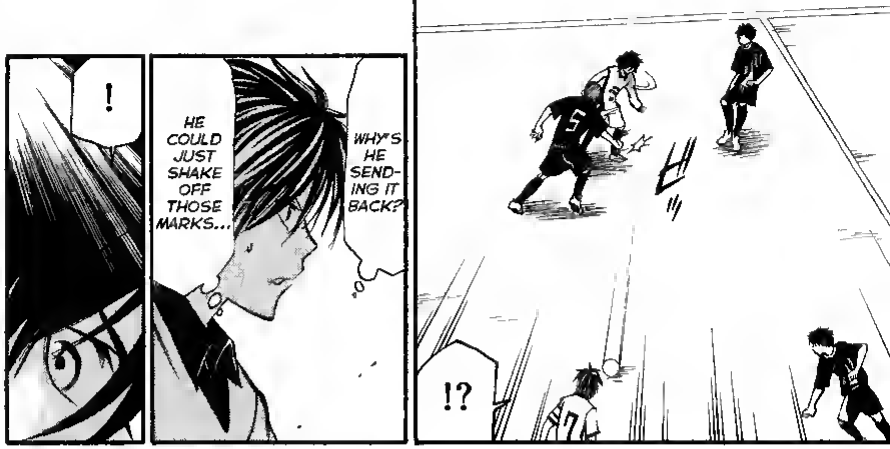

CHAPTER 17: TRUIMPH

GET OUR SECOND GOAL!
RUN, AKA-MUSA!!

前半
後半
延長
波尾
1
0
HUH?
SUSANOO HIGH'S LOSING!

WHAT IS THIS?
THE SOCCER CLUB'S FIRST MATCH?!

I'M ONE OF THE FOR-WARDS, TOO!
I WANT TO SCORE A GOAL, TOO...
SHIT!
SO NOT COOL!
IT MIS-SED!
BUT SINCE I JUST MISSED BEFORE,
HIS PHYSI-CAL ABILI-TIES HAVE TO BE WATCHED CLOSELY...
HE MISS-ED THE GOAL,
HE'S BEEN ON ME LIKE BUTTER ON BREAD SINCE A WHILE AGO!
BUT STILL, THIS DEF-ENSE PISSES ME OFF!


!
HE COULD JUST SHAKE OFF THOSE MARKS...
WHY'S HE SENDING IT BACK?
!?

!!
IZANAMI
THEY'RE DOING A ONE-TWO PASS!
NO.10 IS BREAKING FOR THE CENTER!

I'VE CUT THEM OFF...
!?
NO. 9'S FREE!
CRAP!
TAKE THIS!!

IZANAMI ACADEMY HAS SCORED THEIR SECOND GOAL!
KYAAA !!!

ばちーん
GOOD EYES!
THANKS TO YOU, WE GOT A GOAL FROM BEHIND THE DEFENSE!
IGARASHI!
OH YEAH!
7
THAT'S MY FORWARD BUDDY FOR YOU!
OH YEAH? AMAKUSA DID THAT?
……!!
NO... THAT WAS AMAKUSA...
77ァァ
NICE TRAP BACK THERE, AMAKUSA!
G-GOOD GOAL!

JUST LIKE MASAKI DID.
YEAH, AMAKUSA KNEW WHAT TO DO...

PUT OUR TWO FOR-WARDS AGAINST THEIRS!
DIDN'T I TELL YOU NOT TO LET NO.9 GO FREE?!
Y-YES SIR!

SHIT!
AAHHH... THEY GOT TWO GOALS OFF OF US...

オオ
オオ
6
4

オオオ
YEAH, LOOKS LIKE THEY WANT TO SPLIT UP THE DEFENSE FROM TAKEMOTO...
THEIR MINDS ARE SET ON THIS THEN.
WE'LL GET 2-3 MORE GOALS AFTER THIS.
THEY HAVE ZERO CHANCE OF STOPPING AMAKUSA.
AH, NO, I'D RATHER YOU DIDN'T...
Help us out...
あふ
MIND IF I GET SOME SHUT-EYE?

TAKE HIM ON AND BLOCK HIS PATH!
ワァァ
STOP HIM!
NO.9 GOT THR-OUGH!
ONE MORE GOAL!
NO, THE NO.10 WENT BEHIND THIS TIME...!
!!

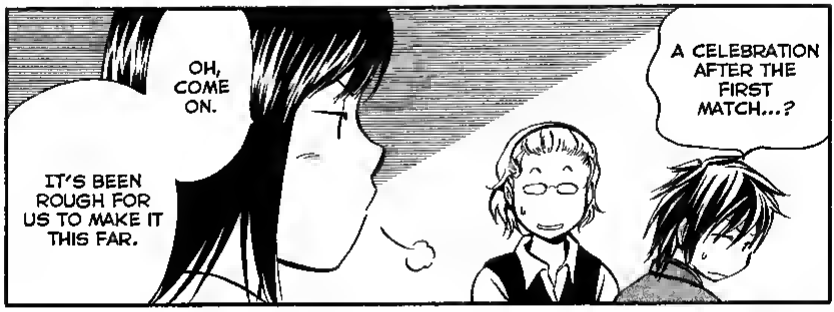
ドン
ドン
ドン

WE'VE BUILT UP OUR TEAMWORK WITH THE SAME PLAYERS FOR THREE YEARS...
HOW ARE THEIR PLAYS RUNNING SO SMOOTHLY?!
HOW?!
7777
SO WHY...
WHILE IZANAMI HURRIEDLY PUT TOGETHER A TEAM THAT HASN'T PLAYED IN ANY TOURNAMENTS YET, AND ALMOST RIGHT BEFORE THIS GAME!
TIME'S UP!
SO WHY...?
3 1
0 0
P K
4 0

WE WON, WE WON!
WE WON OUR FIRST MATCH!
OH YEAH!
THAT NO. 10 DID A HAT TRICK, DIDN'T HE?!
IS HE THE "SECOND MASAKI" ?!
YEAH, THAT'S IZANAMI ACADEMY'S AMAKUSA KAIN!
GATHER TOGE-THER ALL THE DATA!
KUH
4-0... WE TO-TALLY LOST...
IS IT A DIFFER-ENCE IN THE STREN-GTHS OF OUR TEAMS ...?
NO, IT'S SOME-THING EL SE!
LOOKING BACK ON IT, I THOUGHT WE'D BEAT THEM WITH OUR TEAMWORK, BUT WE DIDN'T...
THERE ARE TOO MANY THINGS I CAN'T EX-PLAIN...
THAT NO. 10...

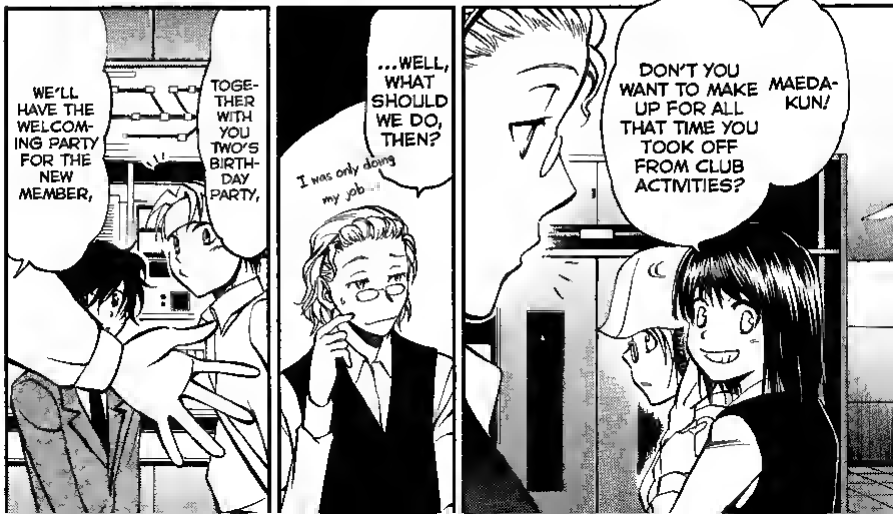
DEFEATED ALL OF US, SINGLE-HANDEDLY!

JR東のうば
LET'S CELE-BRATE! WE WON OUR FIRST MATCH!
YAA AY!
YOU GUYS, DON'T BE SO LOUD IN THE STATION.
HEY, HEY!
LET'S GO CELE-BRATE SOME-WHERE!


A CELEBRATION AFTER THE FIRST MATCH...?
OH, COME ON.
IT'S BEEN ROUGH FOR US TO MAKE IT THIS FAR.

IT'S JUST THE FIRST MATCH,
BUT IT'S STILL *THE* FIRST MATCH!

OH YEAH! TSUBAKI'S BIRTHDAY IS COMING UP SOON...
H-HARUKA?!
!


MAEDA-KUN!
DON'T YOU WANT TO MAKE UP FOR ALL THAT TIME YOU TOOK OFF FROM CLUB ACTIVITIES?
...WELL, WHAT SHOULD WE DO, THEN?
I was only doing my job...
TOGETHER WITH YOU TWO'S BIRTHDAY PARTY,
WE'LL HAVE THE WELCOMING PARTY FOR THE NEW MEMBER,

だあ――っ
AND MAKE IT THIS BIG SOCIAL EVENT AT TSUBAKI'S PLACE!
YOU MEAN... MY HOUSE?
SOUNDS GOOD!
I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO GO THERE AT LEAST ONCE!
THE PRESIDENT OF THE MUSIC OFFICE MADE ALL THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THEM, RIGHT?
SO, IF THAT'S THE CASE...
OH?
EH...?
IT'S GOTTA BE THIS HUGE, EXPENSIVE-AS-HELL CONDO!
NOT EVEN CLOSE.
オオオ
HARUKA... I DON'T LIKE WHERE THIS IS GOING.
WORK WITH ME ON THIS, TSUBAKI!
I WANT TO USE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO STRENGTHEN THE TEAM'S UNITY ALL AT ONCE...
BESIDES, THIS IS A CHANCE FOR KAIN-KUN TO BECOME FRIENDS WITH EVERYONE!

...OKAY.
I GUESS THAT'S FINE THEN.
ALL RIGHT! LET'S BUY SOME INGREDIENTS ON THE WAY!
SERIOUSLY?! YOU'VE GOT THE CLUB DUES WITH YOU?!
I WANT TO EAT YAKINIKU!
NO WAY IN HELL!
BUS

Chapter 18: A Word of Caution

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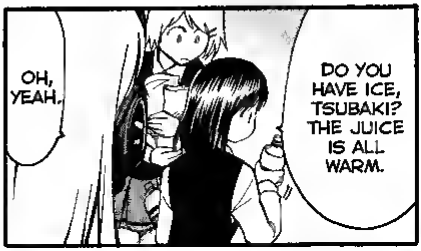
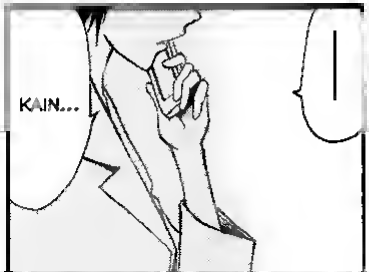
しゃかしゃか
WHOA! YOU'RE REALLY GOOD AT THIS, MAEDA!
I'LL HELP YOU WITH SOMETHING.
THIS PLACE IS HUGE...
SO THIS IS TSUBAKI-CHAN'S PLACE...
NEED SALT?
WHAT ABOUT PEPPER?!
I'M FINE! STOP MESSING UP MY KITCHEN!
I'M HUNGRY...
Is it ready yet?
ughhh.
SORRY, SORRY, JUST A LITTLE WHILE LONGER, MASATO-SENPAI!

HARUKA... WE DON'T HAVE THAT MANY PLATES.
NO PROB-LEM. WE BOUGHT PAPER PLATES AND CUPS.

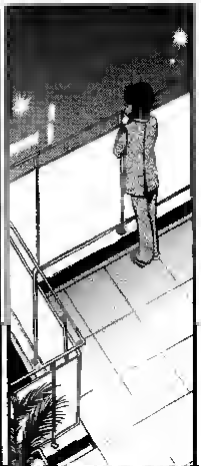
AND SPEAK-ING OF WHICH, WHERE'S KAIN -KUN?


OH, YEAH.
DO YOU HAVE ICE, TSUBAKI? THE JUICE IS ALL WARM.

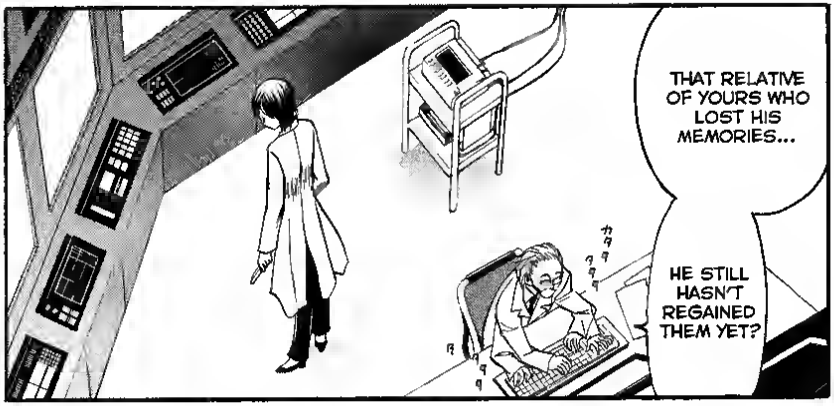
A BIRTH-DAY PARTY?

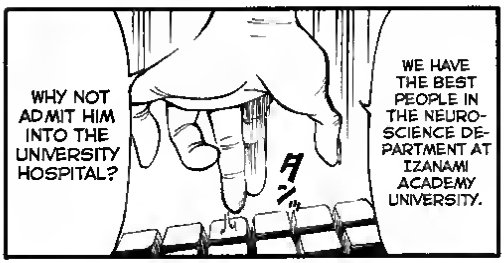

KAIN...

IT'S MAEDA-KUN'S AND TSUBAKI-SAN'S BIRTH-DAY...
YES! I'M AT MAEDA -KUN'S HOUSE RIGHT NOW.

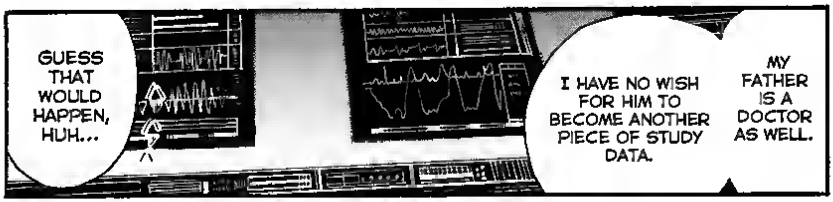


IF ANYONE EVER ASKS YOU...
TELL THEM YOUR BIRTHDAY IS MARCH 8TH.
SHION-SAN...
THERE'S MUCH, MUCH MORE I NEED TO TELL YOU IN ADDITION TO THAT.
SHION-KUN.
CALL ME WHEN YOU'RE COMING HOME. I'LL PICK YOU UP.
...YEAH.


THAT RELATIVE OF YOURS WHO LOST HIS MEMORIES...
HE STILL HASN'T REGAINED THEM YET?

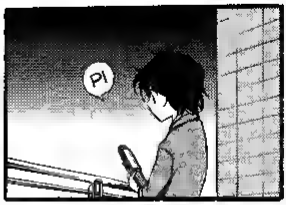

WHY NOT ADMIT HIM INTO THE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL?
WE HAVE THE BEST PEOPLE IN THE NEURO-SCIENCE DEPARTMENT AT IZANAMI ACADEMY UNIVERSITY.

...NO.


GUESS THAT WOULD HAPPEN, HUH...
I HAVE NO WISH FOR HIM TO BECOME ANOTHER PIECE OF STUDY DATA.
MY FATHER IS A DOCTOR AS WELL.

HAVE A GOOD NIGHT.
THE THINGS WE HAVE HIDDEN AWAY HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU.
I'M SURE YOU KNOW THIS BUT,
SHION-KUN?
ALL RIGHT, THEN. I'M HEADING BACK TO THE HIGH SCHOOL.

GOOD JOB, TODAY.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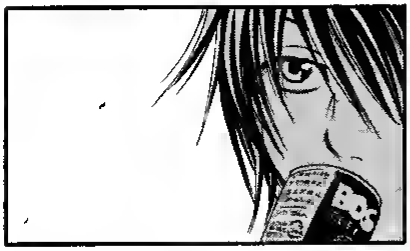
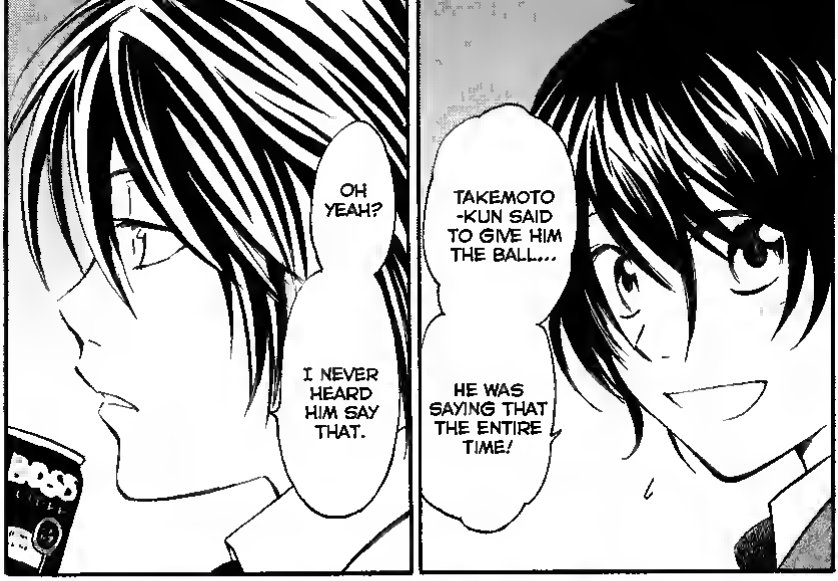


THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
AH!
ぽしっ

AFTER MISSING ON ONE SHOT, HE'D DEFINITELY LOSE HIS TEMPER AND KEEP THINKING, "ONE MORE TIME!".
WITH HIS PERSON-ALITY,

DID WELL, NOTICING TAKEMOTO LIKE THAT.
YOU...


OH YEAH?
I NEVER HEARD HIM SAY THAT.
TAKEMOTO -KUN SAID TO GIVE HIM THE BALL...
HE WAS SAYING THAT THE ENTIRE TIME!

STILL, YOU MAKE WAY TOO MANY HAT TRICKS.
INCREASING YOUR CHANCES TO SCORE.
WELL, ALL THINGS CONSIDERED, THE DEFENSE SPREAD OUT TO TAKEMOTO, TOO, AFTER THAT GOAL...

YES SIR!
DON'T WORK YOURSELF TOO HARD.
I SEE.

YOU KNOW...

I'M FINE!
OH, YES...

HUH?
HOW'S YOUR BODY HOLDING UP?
WELL, AMAKUSA -SENSEI SAID IT HERSELF, RIGHT? THAT YOUR BODY WAS WEAK?

YES?
NAH, NEVER MIND...

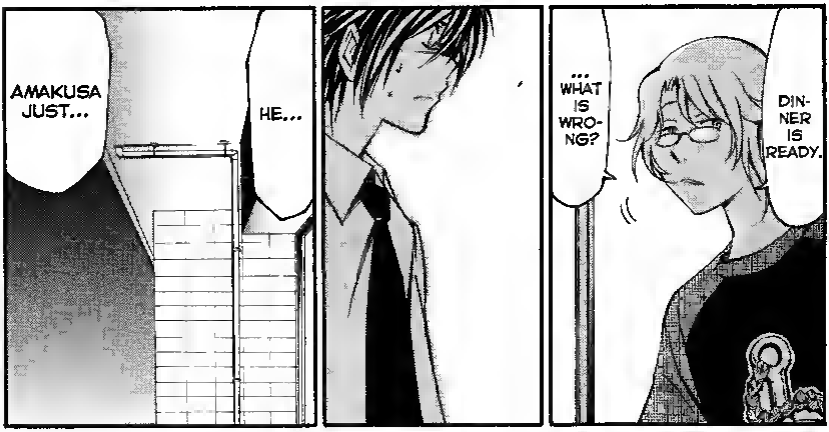
AT FIRST, I THOUGHT THAT EVEN IF HE LOOKED LIKE MASAKI, HE WOULDN'T BE MASAKI...
BUT THEN, DURING THE MATCH, I STARTED THINKING HE WAS LIKE MASAKI...
AND THEN I JUST DION'T CARE ANY-MORE.

IT'S FINE!
HE'S NOT SOME RE-PLACE-MENT FOR MASAKI, EITHER, HE'S...
HE'S OUR NO.10, OUR ACE.
HE IS WHO HE IS.

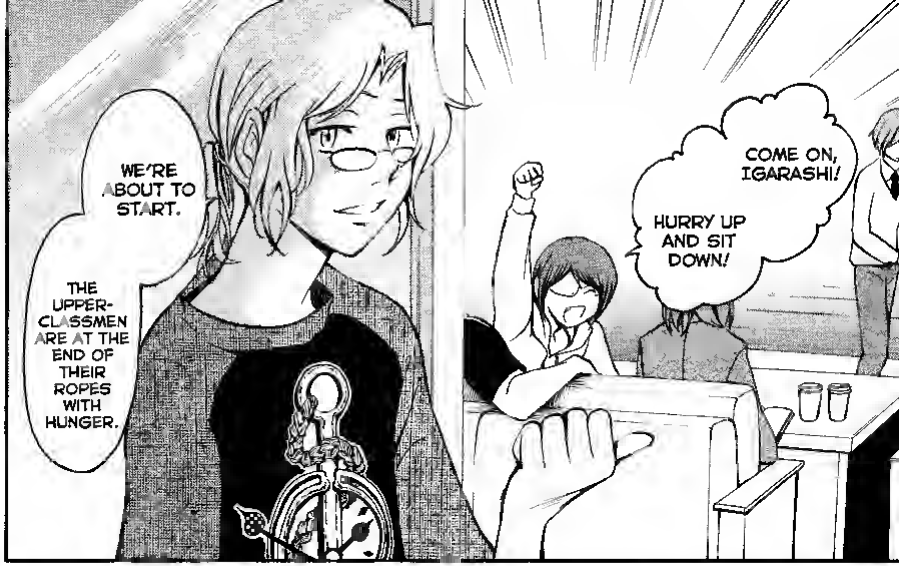
I DON'T KNOW WHO I AM.
SO I'M FINE!
BUT THAT I CAN BE HERE...
THE FACT THAT I'LL BE USEFUL MAKES ME HAPPY!
EVEN AS MASAKI-KUN'S REPLACEMENT!

KAIN
-KUN!

...
TSUBA-
KI-SAN?
T-TODAY IS THE NEW MEMBERS' WELCOMING PARTY.
WE'RE HAVING ALL THE NEW MEMBERS SIT TOGETHER IN THE SAME ROOM...

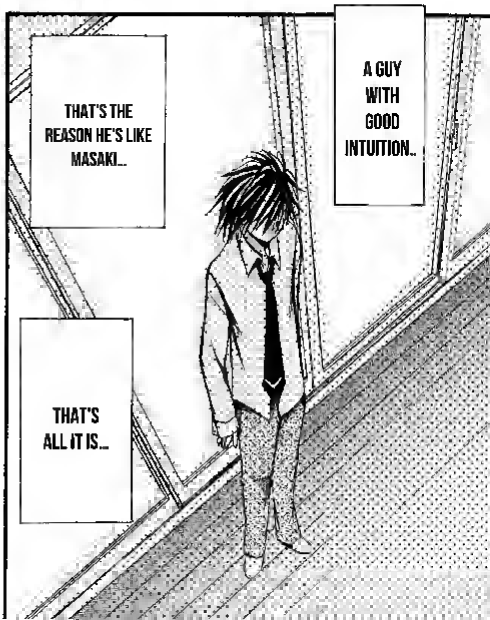

AMAKUSA JUST...
HE...
...WHAT IS WRONG?
DINNER IS READY.

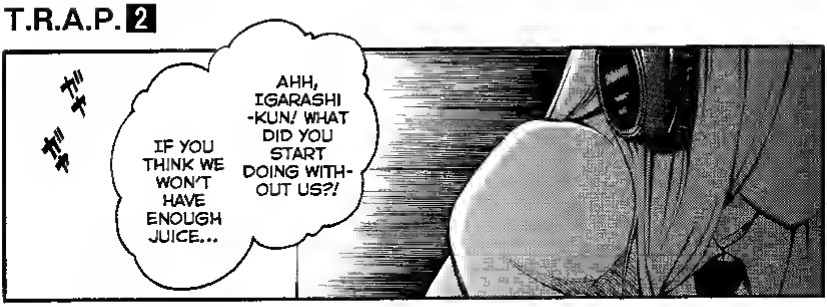
WHAT'S UP, IGARASHI?
DID YOU GET DRUNK ON COFFEE?
THE IDEA IS PREPOSTEROUS!
WAIT, WHAT THE HELL AM I SAYING?!
READ MY...

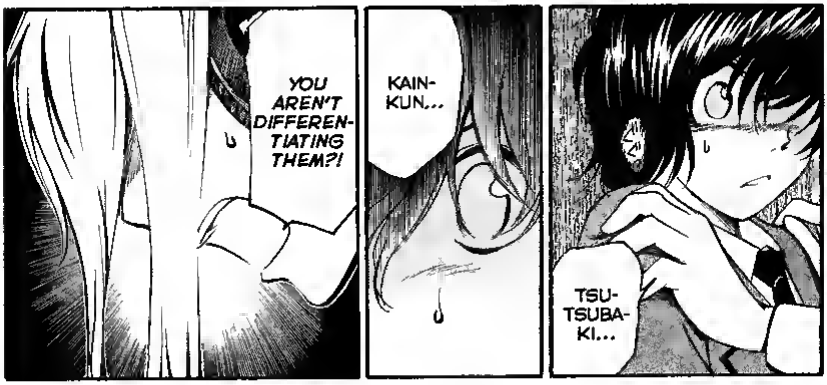

COME ON, IGARASHI!
HURRY UP AND SIT DOWN!
WE'RE ABOUT TO START.
THE UPPER-CLASSMEN ARE AT THE END OF THEIR ROPES WITH HUNGER.

YEAH ...
THERE IS NO WAY THAT HAPP-ENED.
BUT IT'S A THOUGHT THAT'D BEEN GOING THROUGH MY HEAD OVER AND OVER DURING THE GAME.
THAT HE'S JUST A GUY WITH GOOD IN-STINCTS ...

ドン


A GUY WITH GOOD INTUITION..
THAT'S THE REASON HE'S LIKE MASAKI...
THAT'S ALL IT IS...

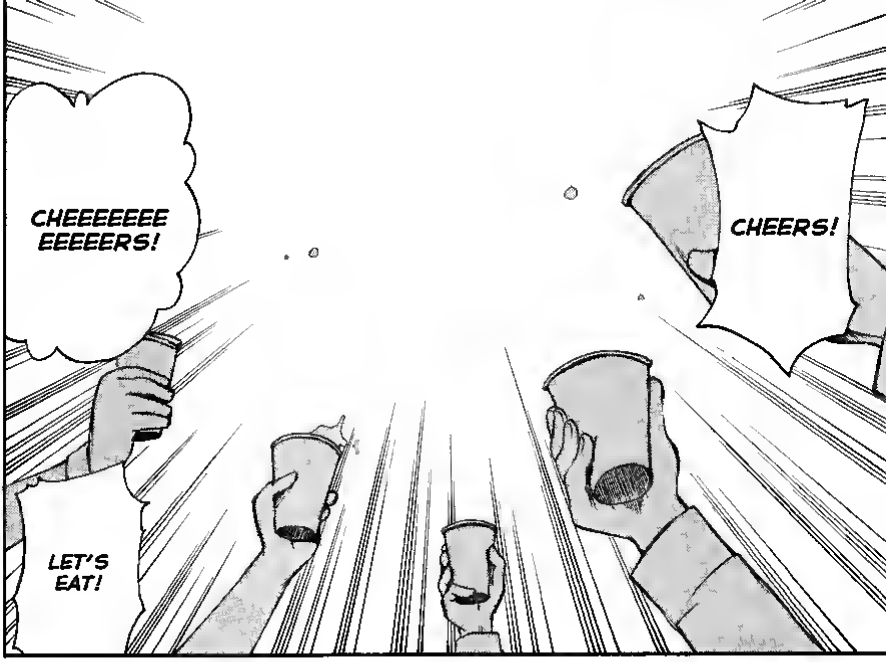

AHH, IGARASHI -KUN! WHAT DID YOU START DOING WITH-OUT US?!
IF YOU THINK WE WON'T HAVE ENOUGH JUICE...


YOU AREN'T DIFFEREN-TIATING THEM?!
KAIN-KUN...
TSU-TSUBA-KI...

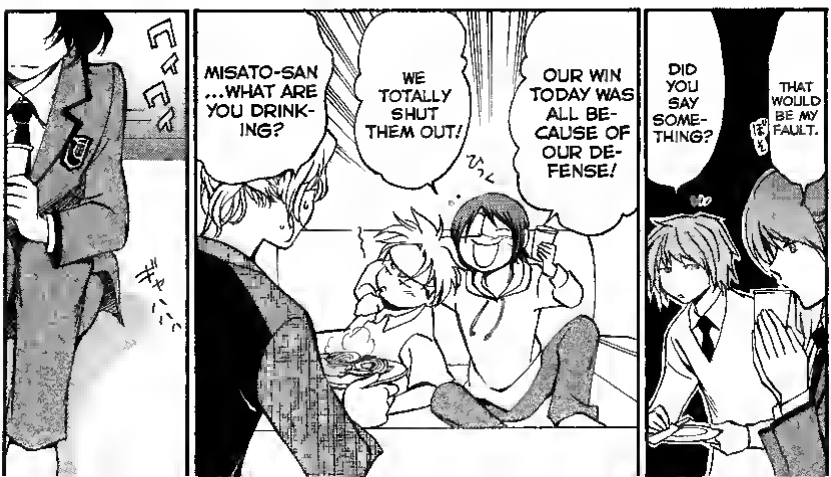
IF YOU DON'T,
WITH THE ONES THAT AREN'T, YOU HAVE TO ACT LIKE YOU CAN'T HEAR THEM!
AND VOICES THAT ARE NOT OKAY!
THERE ARE PEOPLE'S VOICES THAT ARE OKAY TO LISTEN TO...

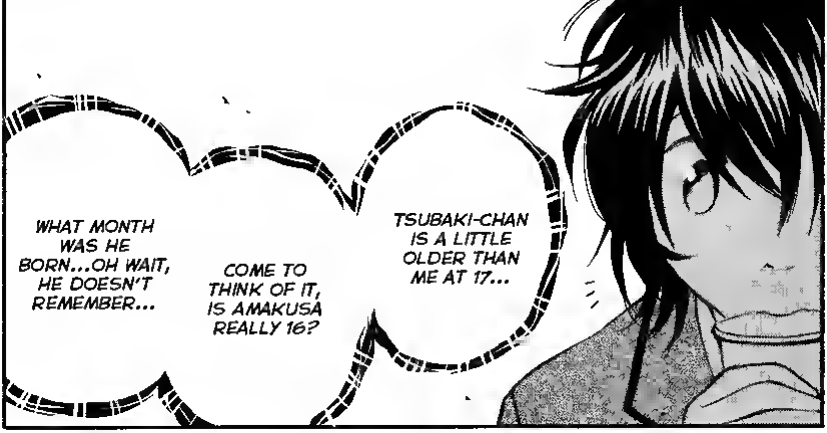
THEN YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO STAY HERE ANY-MORE!

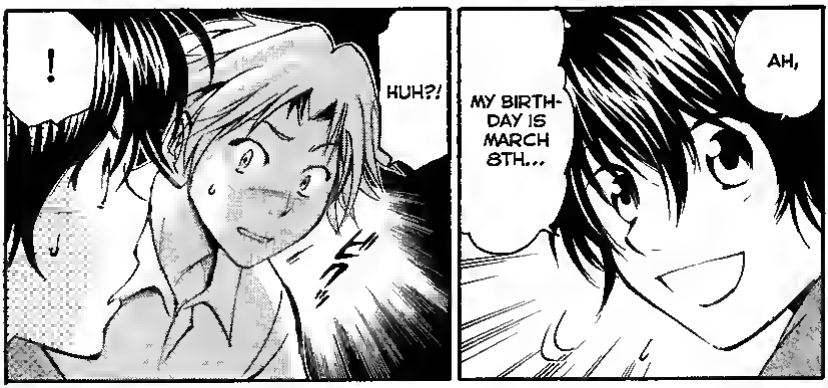
ALL RIGHT!
DID EVERYONE GET A DRINK?
OKAY THEN!
WHILE WE'RE AT IT?
THE WELCOME MEETING FOR THE NEWBIES, AND WHILE WE'RE AT IT, A HEARTY CONGRATS TO THE MAEDA SIBLINGS FOR THEIR BIRTHDAY!
THE FIRST VICTORY OF IZANAMI ACADEMY,
IGARASHI-KUN, WHY DON'T YOU GIVE THE TOAST?
ME?!
WELL, YOU'RE THE CAPTAIN, AREN'T YOU?
TCH.
BUT THAT WAS STILL OUR FIRST MATCH!
PUT A LITTLE MORE ENERGY INTO THE NEXT ONE!
WHAT THE HELL, MAN!
YOU'RE NOT CONGRATULATING US AT ALL!
UH...
WE HAD A COMPLETE 4-0 VICTORY,

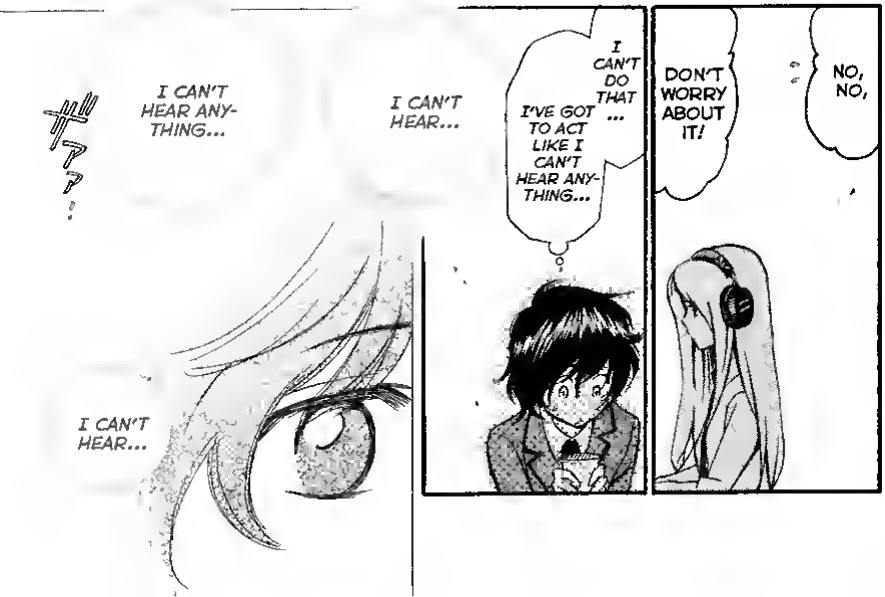

CHEEEEEEEEEEERS!
CHEERS!
LET'S EAT!

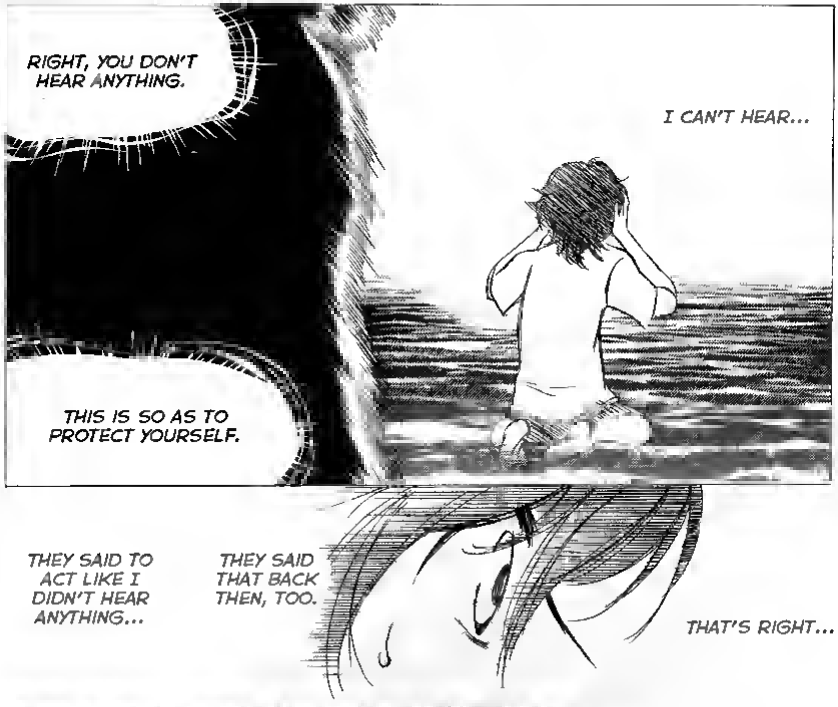
HEY NOW.
STOP BRINGING THAT UP, KUROSAWA!
Dig in to the pasta everyone!
SO, WHETHER PEOPLE BEAT UP EVERYONE ELSE OR WHETHER THEY GOT BEAT UP BY EVERYONE ELSE, LET'S JUST LET BYGONES BE BYGONES.


MISATO-SAN ...WHAT ARE YOU DRINKING?
WE TOTALLY SHUT THEM OUT!
OUR WIN TODAY WAS ALL BECAUSE OF OUR DEFENSE!
DID YOU SAY SOMETHING?
THAT WOULD BE MY FAULT.


TSUBAKI-CHAN IS A LITTLE OLDER THAN ME AT 17...
COME TO THINK OF IT, IS AMAKUSA REALLY 16?
WHAT MONTH WAS HE BORN...OH WAIT, HE DOESN'T REMEMBER...


AH,
MY BIRTH-DAY IS MARCH 8TH...
HUH?!
!


NO, NO,
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT!
I CAN'T DO THAT ...
I'VE GOT TO ACT LIKE I CAN'T HEAR ANY-THING...
I CAN'T HEAR...
I CAN'T HEAR ANY-THING...
I CAN'T HEAR...


RIGHT, YOU DON'T HEAR ANYTHING.
THIS IS SO AS TO PROTECT YOURSELF.
I CAN'T HEAR...
THEY SAID TO ACT LIKE I DIDN'T HEAR ANYTHING...
THEY SAID THAT BACK THEN, TOO.
THAT'S RIGHT...

WHO WAS IT?!

おまけのとらっぷ!

～制作日記～

なんとか、今年の夏を乗り切りました大和屋です～～～…
暑すぎるだろおおお!!!!!
外で働いている方々には申し訳ないのですが、日中は一歩も外に出られませんでしたよ。
とにかく暑いのが苦手です。
季節では冬が一番好き。
年末年始のイベントが近づくとテンション上がります！　と言っても、特別なことをするわけでもなく…
盛り上がってる（浮かれてる？）世間の雰囲気が好きなのです。

FILE④

天草 詩音
O型／やぎ座

カインの保護者。
誘波学院の教師兼脳科学の研究者。

FILE⑤

和田
A型／さそり座
社会科講師兼サッカー部顧問。

黒沢 遥
2年
O型／ふたご座
マネージャー

竹本 孝介
2年
A型／しし座
165cm／FW
じいちゃんっ子。

今西 裕貴 2年
170cm／MF／左利き

三郷 和威
3年
O型／かに座
160cm（自称）／MF
ひとりっ子。

FILE⑦

梶 浩之
3年
A型／おとめ座
189cm／DF
母一人子一人。

水流 アキト
3年
AB型／みずがめ座
180cm／DF
年の離れた姉と兄がいる。

徹夜のお供はもっぱらTVとCD。
スタッフさんが来ている時はFMラジオのみですが、夜はTVの光を浴びていないと寝てしまうんです… 音声を消して、CDを大音量でかけたりもします。とにかくTVはついてさえいればいいのです。

大和屋エコ